



BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1931.

G. H. PEARCE, M.D. (Durh.), D.P.H. (Camb.),
Of the Inner Temple, Barrister-at-Law.



BATLEY:
The "News" Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Bradford Road.
1932.



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To the Rt. Hon. Sir E. Hilton Young, Minister of Health,
and the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Batley.

This Annual Report is compiled in accordance with the requirements of Circular 1206 (England), issued by the Ministry of Health, July 14th, 1931.

General Statistics, 1931.

Area of Borough (in acres)	3,227
Civil Population (Registrar-General's Estimate)	34,890
Population at Census of 1931 (Males 16,055, Females 18,518)	34,573
Number of Inhabited Houses (Census 1931) not yet available.	
Total Private Families at Census (1931) not yet available.	
Population living more than two persons per room (Census 1931) not yet available.	
Number of inhabited houses, 1931 (according to Rate-books)	9,948
Average number of persons per house	3.5
Density of population per acre	10.8
Number of Births (Males 243, Females 266) Total	509
Illegitimate Births (Males 14, Females 17) Total	31
Birth-Rate per 1,000 living	14.6
Number of Still Births Registered	33
Illegitimate Birth-Rate per 1,000 Births Registered	60.9
Number of Deaths, including Residents, who died away from Batley (Males 230, Females 235) Total	465
Net Death-Rate per 1,000 living	13.3
Infantile Death-Rate per 1,000 Births Registered	60.9
Illegitimate Death-Rate per 1,000 Births Registered	32.2
Tuberculosis Death-Rate (all forms), per 1,000	0.49
Phthisis Death-Rate per 1,000	0.43
Zymotic Death-Rate per 1,000	0.37
Respiratory Diseases Death-Rate per 1,000 (excluding Phthisis)	2.06
Cancer Death-Rate per 1,000	1.7
Cases of Infectious Disease notified	187
Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified	22
Cases of other forms of Tuberculosis notified	18
Number of Inquests	23
Rateable Value	£143,970
Rate of 1d. in the £ produces Estimated	£540
Rainfall in Inches	35.17
Number of Wet Days	165
Parliamentary Voters	23,783
Local Government Voters	17,454
Poor Law Relief Distributed	£6,788
Primary Vaccinations, exclusive of Smallpox Contacts	81
Exemption Certificates Granted	418
Dried Milk given under Milk (Mothers and Children) Order	2,874 lbs. Cost £208-10-3
Infants Born during 1931, fed wholly or partially from Public Funds	8.8%



**Borough of Batley.—Vital Statistics of Whole District
during 1931 and Previous Years.**

Yearly Average	Estimated Population.	NETT BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
		Number	Rate per 1,000	Number	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births	Number.	Rate. per 1,000
10 years 1901-10	31,694	827	26.1	143	171	537	17.0
10 years 1911-20	36,435	676	20.5	93	123	571	16.0
10 years 1921-30	35,765	624	17.3	48	76.5	482	13.4
Year 1931 BATLEY	34,890	509	14.6	31	60.9	465	13.3
England & Wales ...	...	...	15.8	...	66	...	12.3
107 County Bor- oughs and Great Towns including London	...	...	16.1	...	70	...	12.3
159 Smaller Towns	...	...	15.6	...	62	...	11.3
LONDON	...	...	15.0	...	67	...	12.6

	Total.	M.	F.		
Live Births—Legitimate	478	229	249	Birth Rate ...	14.6
Illegitimate	31	14	17		
Still Births	33	17	16	Rate per 1000 total births...	60.9
Deaths	465	230	235	Death Rate	13.3
Percentage of total deaths occurring in public institutions					27.3
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth:—					
From sepsis					Nil.
From other causes					1
Death rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births:—Legitimate 62.7. Illegitimate 32.2. All infants					60.9
Deaths from Measles (all ages)					Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)					Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)					4
There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.					

Causes of Death in Batley for the Year 1931.

1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—
2. Measles	—
3. Scarlet Fever	1
4. Whooping Cough	—
5. Diphtheria	8
6. Influenza	13
7. Encephalitis lethargica	2
8. Cerebro-spinal fever	—
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	15
10. Other tuberculous diseases	2
11. Syphilis	—
12. General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	—
13. Cancer, malignant disease	60
14. Diabetes	6
15. Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	31
16. Heart disease	94
17. Aneurysm	—
18. Other circulatory diseases	37
19. Bronchitis	38
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	30
21. Other respiratory diseases	4
22. Peptic ulcer	2
23. Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	4
24. Appendicitis	3
25. Cirrhosis of liver	1
26. Other diseases of liver, etc.	3
27. Other digestive diseases	8
28. Acute and chronic nephritis	28
29. Puerperal sepsis	—
30. Other puerperal causes	1
31. Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	16
32. Senility	5
33. Suicide	4
34. Other violence	6
35. Other defined diseases	43
36. Causes ill-defined or unknown	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above):—	
Smallpox	—
Poliomyelitis	—
Polioencephalitis	1



SOCIAL CONDITIONS.—These have been described in previous annual reports. Reference may be made to page 5 of the Annual Report for 1930. No local occupation appears to exert any particularly deleterious influence on the public health, which is contrary to expectation.

POPULATION.—At the 1931 Census the population of Batley proved to be 34,573. The Registrar-General estimates the population of Batley at the middle of 1931 to be 34,890. He remarks “the 1931 estimate of population differs from the 1931 Census population in that it purports to represent the resident population of the area, which is not necessarily comparable with the population enumerated in the area at the Census.”

BIRTHS.—The Registrar-General reports the registration—which is distinct from notification—of 509 births in Batley during 1931. There were 33 still births registered in addition to the live births.

The nett birth rate for Batley is 14.6 per thousand of population.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS ACT, 1907.—Doctors notified 131, midwives 418, and other persons 20 births, a total of 569 during 1931. Of these 30 were still births.

INFANTILE DEATH RATE.—This is 60.9 per thousand of the births registered.

GENERAL DEATH RATE is 13.3 per thousand of the population.

A comparison with other years may be made by referring to the Table which gives the vital statistics for 1931 and previous years.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

(a) MEDICAL.

Medical Officer of Health, Medical G. H. Pearce, M.D. (Durh.), D.P.H.,
Superintendent Maternity and Child (Camb.), Barrister-at-Law (Inner
Welfare Centres, School Medical Temple).
Officer and Medical Superintendent
Maternity Home

Assistant Medical Officer of Health, Gwendolen Buckle, M.B. B.S.
M. and C.W. (part time) (Durh.)

School Oculist and Hon. Ophth. Surgeon Randal Herley, B.A., L.R.C.P. and S.
Maternity Home (part time) (Edin.), L.R.F.P. and S. (Glas.).

(b) OTHERS.

School Dentist (part time) Marion M. Thom., L.D.S.

Veterinary Inspector (part time) Geo. Whitehead, M.R.C.V.S.

Public Analyst (part time) F. W. Richardson, F.I.C., F.C.S.

Senior Sanitary Inspector Harold Hornby, M.R.S.I., † ‡ ¶

District Sanitary Inspectors { W. W. Wilkinson † ‡
F. G. Spencer, † ‡

Superintendent Health Visitor, Sup-
erintendent School Nurse, Adminis- H. Evans, \$ +
trative Matron of Maternity Home...

Health Visitors and School Nurses { E Farthing \$ + O
M. M. Waggott, \$ + O
N. K. Richards, \$ + O
L. Warry, \$ + O

Chief Clerk R. Hornsby

Clerk K. Lister

Clerk C. I. Broadley x

Maternity Home— { Staff Nurse ... I. A. Walton \$ +
Nurse Midwife ... M. Bird +
Midwife ... A. Rowling +
Midwife ... W. Lawson, +

† Holds Certificate for Sanitary Inspectors, Royal Sanitary Institute.

‡ Holds Certificate for Inspectors of Meat and other Foods, Royal Sanitary Institute.

¶ Holds Certificate for Smoke Inspectors, Royal Sanitary Institute.

\$ Holds Certificate for three years' general training. State Registered Nurse.

O Holds Certificate for Health Visitors, Royal Sanitary Institute, approved by Ministry of Health.

+ Holds Certificate of Central Midwives' Board.

x Holds Northern Universities' School Leaving Certificate.

B.

1. **NURSING IN THE HOME.**—There have been no changes in the arrangements for (a) general nursing or (b) nursing of infectious diseases during 1931.

2. **MIDWIVES.**—The Ministry of Health for the second time refused the application of the Corporation for an Order under Sec. 62 of the Local Government Act, 1929, directing that the Town Council shall become the Local Supervising Authority for the district of the Borough of Batley. In consequence the West Riding County Council is the body responsible for arrangements and particulars respecting midwives.

3. **LABORATORY FACILITIES.**—There has been no change in the existing arrangements. Facilities are provided at the County Council Laboratories, Wakefield, for the examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens. The figures for the year 1931 are Widal, 12; Sputum, 74; Diphtheria, 155; Ringworm, 3; Urine, 9 (4 T.B., 2 B. typh., 3 orgs.); Miscellaneous, 5; a total of 258.

(4) **LEGISLATION IN FORCE.**—In addition to the Batley Corporation Act, 1921, the following general adoptive Acts, By-laws and Regulations relating to the public health are in force in Batley:—

The Baths and Washhouses Acts 1846 to 1882	The Public Libraries Act... 1892
The Infectious Diseases (Prevention Act) 1890	The Notification of Births Act 1907
The Public Health Act (Amendment) Act 1890	The Public Health Acts Amendment Act (Secs. 45. 51, 61. 86 and 95 and Part VIII) 1907
The Museums and Gymnasiums Act 1891	Public Health Act (Selected Sections) 1925

BYE-LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

Tramways 1882	Shop Hours (Hairdressers and Barbers) 1908
Preventing the Waste or Misuse of Water 1885	Park and Pleasure Ground 1910
Cemetery 1886	Education 1920
Slaughter Houses 1889	Employment of Children ... 1920
Common Lodging Houses ... 1889	Sale of Coal 1923
Houses Let in Lodgings ... 1889	Supply of Water for other than Domestic Purposes ... 1926
Nuisances 1889	Violent Behaviour, etc., on School Premises 1926
Cleansing of Footpaths, Pavements and Cesspools ... 1889	New Streets and Buildings... 1927
Hackney Carriages 1891	Tents, Vans and Sheds, etc. 1927
Public Baths 1893	Underground Sleeping Places 1927
Markets 1898	Smoke Abatement 1928
Betting in Streets 1899	Offensive Trades 1929
Library 1907	

5. **HOSPITALS.**—A complete description of the public or voluntary hospital services for this area was given on pages 11 and 12 of the Annual Report for 1930. The position was the same as there described during 1931.

The Batley Maternity Home is provided by the Town Council. There are ten beds for patients in five wards, one bed in an isolation ward, and one bed in the labour room.

Year.	Bookings.	Patients	
		admitted.	Infants' Born.
1922 (Oct. to Dec.)		24	24
1923	205	156	153
1924	215	213	212
1925	212	213	209
1926	184	163	160
1927	206	203	202
1928	182	165	159
1929	197	209	210
1930	212	188	186
1931	195	196	193

The Housing Conditions of 1,462 patients, residents of Batley, who were confined in the Batley Maternity Home from opening in October, 1922, to December 31st, 1931, were as follows:—

TYPE OF HOUSE.—Back-to-back, 704; single, 332; through 405; one room, 21.

NUMBER OF ROOMS IN HOUSE.—One, 27; two, 548; three, 455; four, 223; five, 172; six and over, 37.

NUMBER OF OCCUPANTS OF HOUSE.—Two, 49; three, 368; four, 393; five, 269; six, 154; seven, 102; eight, 61; nine, 28; ten, 21; eleven, 8; twelve, 8; fifteen, 1.

CIRCUMSTANCES OF PATIENTS.—Living in own house, 1,036; living in own house with lodgers, 30; living in lodgings, 396.

The total number of patients admitted to the Home during the above-mentioned period was 1,510 residents of Batley and 220 from outside the Borough, the complete figures being 1,730.

During the year 1931 13.6 per cent. of the Batley patients confined in the Maternity Home were living in lodgings.

The number of patients residing outside Batley confined in the Maternity Home since the opening in October, 1922, to December 31st, 1931, was 220, of whom 22 were admitted during 1931.

In 1925 it was arranged that it be brought to the notice of all patients that the cost to the Corporation is much greater than the amount paid by individual patients, and each is invited to make such a donation when leaving the Home as their financial circumstances may warrant. The amounts contributed have been :—

1925 ...	£10	10	6	from 18 patients ; total patients being	213
1926 ...	£18	11	0	„ 23 „ „ „ „ „	163
1927 ...	£26	17	6	„ 27 „ „ „ „ „	203
1928 ...	£3	5	0	„ 5 „ „ „ „ „	165
1929 ...	£15	7	0	„ 30 „ „ „ „ „	209
1930 ...	£11	4	0	„ 23 „ „ „ „ „	188
1931 ...	£10	17	0	„ 25 „ „ „ „ „	196
<hr/>					
	£96	12	0	„ 151 „ „ „ „ „	1337
<hr/>					

The donations amount during the seven years to 12s. 9½d. per head of those contributing, and only 1s. 5¼d. per head of total patients admitted. On no occasion has any contribution been received from those patients who reside outside Batley, although each is aware when leaving the Home that her period of residence has cost more than has been received in fees from herself.

The total nett cost per patient per fortnight in the Batley Maternity Home, according to the statement of detailed costs, issued by the Ministry of Health, January, 1931, is £8 19s. 6d. Of this the Ministry pays 50 per cent.

6.—MATERNITY and NURSING HOMES.—The Batley Municipal Maternity Home has been previously described. There are no Nursing Homes in the Borough.

7. INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS and HOMELESS CHILDREN (apart from the Poor Law) is not provided. An unmarried female may be admitted to the Batley Maternity Home for confinement on the first occasion, but not subsequently.

8. AMBULANCE FACILITIES.—(a) For infectious diseases by the Oakwell and Dewsbury Joint Isolation Hospitals, (b) for non-infectious and accident cases by the Batley Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. As is invariably the case, Superintendent Horne has rendered much assistance in the removal of patients. His services are of considerable value.

9. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Name.	Address.	Sessions.	Authority Providing.
Ante Natal Clinic	Maternity Home	Monday, 1-30—3-30.	Batley Corporation
Infant Welfare Centre	Town Mission Hall	Tuesday, 2—4.	Ditto
Ditto	Wesleyan Sunday Sch., Batley Carr	Wednesday, 2-15—3-45	Ditto
Minor Ailments Clinic	School Clinic, Bk Cambridge St.	Daily, 9 a.m. and 4-15 p.m.	Ditto
Ophthalmic Clinic	Ditto	When required, 2—5.	Ditto
Dental Clinic	Ditto	Mon., Tues., Wed 9—12, 2—5. Alternate Saturdays, 9—12.	Ditto
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Branch House, Batley.	Thursdays, 2—4 and 6—8.	West Riding County Council
Treatment Centres for Venereal Disease	Dewsbury Infirmary	Monday, 3. Thursday, 6-30.	Ditto.

No new clinics have been established during 1931. A venereal diseases clinic at Batley Hospital would be advantageous. The reasons have been previously specified.

During 1931 it is known that 41 males and 12 females attended the venereal diseases clinics at Dewsbury Infirmary; 3 males and 2 females attended similar clinics at Leeds Infirmary. These were all residents of Batley.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC, 1925 to 1931.

	Yearly average. 1925—1929.	Year 1930.	Year 1931.
Individual patients attending Clinic	211	241	252
Patients found normal	62	68	93
Patients found suffering from one or more defects	149	173	159
Total number of attendances at Clinic	636	694	789

DEFECTS CLASSIFIED.

Respiratory System, including			
Tuberculosis	26	9	3
Circulatory System, excluding Vari- cose Veins	35	15	15
Digestive System, excluding defec- tive teeth and constipation	9	12	19
Urinary System	13	9	10
Small or deformed pelvis	10	12	11
Gynæcological defects, including venereal disease	11	12	12
Deformities of breasts	4	11	4
Varicose veins	42	36	35
Constipation	28	24	38
Placenta Prævia	0.2	Nil.	Nil.
Teeth	47	49	44
Miscellaneous	17	34	19
Anæmia and Debility	12	57	28
Communications to practitioners re- specting patients	64	45	21
Communications to midwives re- specting patients	0.2	2	1

Owing to the unfortunate illness of the Assistant Medical Officer, Dr. Gwendolen Buckle, it is not possible to submit her report on Maternity and Child Welfare work since her appointment in April, 1931. It is hoped to include it in the next Annual Report.

C. MATERNAL MORTALITY.—In 1928 the Medical Officer of Health was designated as the person to investigate maternal deaths. The arrangement still continues, including puerperal fever and puerperal pyrexia. Action taken by the Local Authority in the light of Circular 1167 and Memorandum 156/MCW are summed up in the following extract from the Minutes of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee of Wednesday, 16th December, 1931:

“ 95. MATERNAL MORTALITY.

The Town Clerk submitted and read letter of the 26th October last from the Ministry of Health (in reply to the letter sent as authorised by Minute No. 63 of 16/9/31), from which it was noted that the Minister was glad to hear that for the most part the suggestions contained in Memo. 156 M.C.W. were in operation in the Borough.

The Minister added that it would be an advantage if the Town Council would extend their scheme so as to include (a) the appointment of a Consultant to assist Doctors in difficulties or complications arising during pregnancy or at or after confinement, and (b) the provision of sterilised maternity outfits in suitable cases.

Resolved:—That the Town Clerk be instructed to reply to the letter in the terms now indicated.”

ATTENDANCES AT WELFARE CENTRES.

TOWN MISSION :—

Yearly Average.	No. of mothers on register.	Expectant mothers.	Mothers with Infants.		New admissions.	Average attendance per mother.
1916-1920	374	12	1,982		59	3.8
1921-1925	458	54	2,543		274	5.4
1926-1930	458	27	2,699		237	5.9
Year.			Under 12 mths	Between 1 and 5 yrs.		
1931	409	19	1,823	819	233	6.5

BATLEY CARR :—

Yearly Average.	No. of mothers on register.	Expectant mothers.	Mothers with Infants.		New admissions.	Average attendance per mother.
1919-1923	144	2	1,132		69	6.8
1924-1928	206	25	1,501		89	7.1
Year						
1929	189	5	1,055		50	5.6
1930	197	8	1,262		70	6.4
			Under 12 mths.	Between 1 and 5 yrs.		
1931	206	13	798	388	75	5.8

**RECORD OF INFANTS MEDICALLY EXAMINED AT
CENTRES DURING RECENT YEARS.**

Year.	New Cases Seen.	ALL CASES.		
		Infants under 6 months.	Older Children.	Not wholly satisfactory.
1926	248	269	201	275
1927	218	309	208	230
1928	186	406	252	306
1929	216	445	391	351
1930	188	359	574	398
1931	230	526	598	415

Table showing number of deaths amongst infants who attended or did not attend a Welfare Centre. Deaths under 4 weeks are not included for feeding.

Year.	Infant Deaths.		Attended Centre.	Not Attended Centre.	Breast Fed.	Artificially Fed.
	Number.	Died in first month.				
1921	64	35	12	17	6	23
1922	54	27	9	18	19	8
1923	60	19	12	29	11	30
1924	42	25	9	8	4	13
1925	58	33	6	19	13	12
1926	43	29	10	4	9	5
1927	46	24	9	13	15	7
1928	30	20	5	5	5	5
1929	56	31	11	14	20	5
1930	30	17	4	9	12	1
1931	31	18	8	5	11	2

WORK OF HEALTH VISITORS DURING 1931.

Ante-Natal—First Visits	163	
Re-Visits	117	
	—	280
Infants under 12 Months—Visits		
First Visits	504	
Re-Visits	5315	
	—	5819
Visits to Children—		
Between 12 months and 3 years	3017	
Between 3 and 5 years	1404	
	—	4421
Visits to cases of—		
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	6	
Pneumonia (notified)	56	
Tuberculosis	205	
Still Births	20	
Diarrhœa	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	Nil.	
Puerperal Fever	3	
Miscellaneous	245	
	—	536
		—
Total Visits		11,056

The preceding figures do not include visits paid by the nurses in their capacity as School Nurses, which were 3,374. The grand total, therefore, of visits by the Health Visitors and School Nurses during 1931 was 14,430.

CHILDREN ACT, 1908.—The arrangements made for discharging the functions of the Local Authority under Part I of this Act are summarised in the resolution of the General Purposes Committee, December 23rd, 1929:—

“Resolved:—That this Council do agree to refer to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee the powers and duties under Part I. of the Children Act, 1908, exerciseable by this Local Authority by virtue of the Local Government Act, 1929.”

BATLEY MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

VOLUNTARY WORKERS' SECTION.

BALANCE SHEET, 1931.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Cash in Bank, Dec. 31, 1930	2	9 8	Milk	18	0
Cash in Co-operative Society, 31.12.30		6 10	Biscuits, Tea and Sugar...	12	3 1
Town Mission, Teas	5	9 7	Cash in Bank, 31.12.31 ...	7	0
Town Mission, Garments...	1	2 6	Cash in Co-operative Society, 31.12.31	1	0
Batley Carr, Teas and Garments		2 7 8			
Co-operative Dividends ...	1	12 10			
	£13	9 1		£13	9 1

(Signed) Mrs. EVA THOMPSON. Hon. Secretary.

Mrs. SARAH A. GREENWOOD, Hon. Treasurer.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.—Particulars are given in the Medical Officer's Annual Report for 1930, page 22. The position is the same.

City and County Analyst's Office,

Bradford,

June 19th, 1931.

Copy of Analytical Report upon 1 sample of water received from Mr. W. H. Duckworth, Batley.

Received June 13th, 1931.

Total Solid Matters	7.00
Chlorine (combined) ... ..	.55
Nitrites	None.
Nitrogen as Nitrates	None.
Free Ammonia ... ..	.0028
Albuminoid Ammonia ... ..	.0028
Lead	None.
Total Hardness (Clark's Scale)	2.1

This is an exceptionally pure soft water. It is so free from lime and magnesium solids that under certain conditions this water may become plumbo-solvent.

(Signed) F. W. RICHARDSON.

Note made by Mr. W. H. Duckworth.

This water was drawn direct on the morning of the 13th June, 1931, from the Brownhill Reservoir, at a point near the overflow weir.

RIVERS and STREAMS.—The West Riding of Yorkshire Rivers Board is the authority which exercises supervision over the Batley beck. It is polluted by dye water, trade waste, etc. During heavy rain storms it occasionally overflows its banks, causing considerable flooding of houses and streets.

DRAINAGE and SEWERAGE.—The Acting Borough Surveyor and Engineer, Mr. T. Mossop, has kindly supplied the following information in the absence, through illness, of Mr. H. L. Hall:—

“The necessary works of cleaning Detritus Tanks, Sludge lagoons, and washing of filtering media at the Sewage Disposal Works have been carried out as usual during the year ending December 31st, 1931.”

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, 1931.

Water Closets	7801
Trough and Automatic Water Closets	216
Trough and Automatic Water Closets converted into proper water closets	None.
Blocks of Trough Water Closets	29
Blocks of Trough Water Closets converted into proper water closets	None.
Pail Closets	7
Pail Closets converted into proper water closets	None.
Privy middens	21
Privy middens converted into proper water closets	None.
Additional water closets provided for old property	32
Additional water closets provided for new property	26

SCAVENGING.—This Section is by the Senior Sanitary Inspector (Mr. H. Hornby).

In the Annual Reports for 1929 and 1930, full particulars were given of the changes in organisation which had been made to economise, whilst at the same time improving efficiency. It is pleasing to record that the efforts so made have met with success as the following table demonstrates:—

Year.	Annual Gross Expenditure.		Saving.		Total
	Collection.	Disposal.	Collection.	Disposal.	Saving.
	£	£	£	£	£
1929	3,981	2,523	—	—	—
1930	3,645	2,387	336	136	472
1931	3,529	2,320	116	67	183
Total Annual Saving—Collection and Disposal—Compared with two years ago					£655

As regards efficiency, the plan of allotting each vehicle with its complement of men to a particular district has secured that the work is done much better than formerly.

In addition to the savings detailed above, income has increased by £250, the annual payment to the Public Health Department by the Electricity Department having been increased from £200 to £450 per annum. This was decided upon after a careful investigation by the two Committees concerned, both of which generally agreed that the Public Health Department had proved its case for a substantial increase in the amount annually recovered for steam supplied by the Destructor Works for the generation of electricity. It is emphasised that this increased amount is actually earned and that there is no question that the Destructor Works is in any way subsidised. As evidence upon this point it is worth observing that the 5,946 tons of refuse burnt at the Destructor Works were equal to over one thousand pounds worth of coal, calculated on the basis of refuse at 5,000 B.Th.U's per pound and coal at the price of 10/- per ton. Further, the water consumption at the Destructor Works was 1,311,000 gallons, for which the sum of £88 was paid to the Water Department.

The weights of refuse dealt with in this report are correct, as a large proportion of all loads collected was actually weighed, the remainder being estimated on average weights based on the greater proportion weighed, according to season.

As in previous years, and following the instructions of the Ministry of Health, collection and disposal have been kept as separate items and disposal has been sub-divided into incineration at the Destructor Works and tipping respectively.

The number of days has been taken at 365 and not the actual working days.

The number of occupied houses is 9,948; the number of premises from which refuse is collected being not less than 10,000.

The staff engaged in collection is as follows:—

Mechanical Transport (S. D. Freighter)	1
Horse Transport (Carts) Regular	6
Horse Transport (Carts) Hired	1 (Part-time).
Drivers	7
Throwers-out (including working foreman) ...	11

About 66 per cent. of the total refuse dealt with was burned at the Destructor Works, where the plant consists of a Horsfall Destructor with four cells, staffed by a foreman and four stokers.

The following report was submitted to the Public Health Committee at its meeting in October, 1931. By the end of the year no definite arrangements had been made to give effect to the recommendations made therein, and the matter was carried over to 1932 for the consideration of the Advisory Sub-Committee.

TABLE I.

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

INCINERATION—

	Tons.
Burned at the Destructor Works	5946
TIPPING—	
Tipped at Grange Road Tip	808
Tipped at White Lee Tip	516
Tipped at Carter's Field	1411
Tipped at Mount Pleasant	266
Tipped at Farms	62
	<hr/>
Total	9009
	<hr/>

TABLE II.

COLLECTION OF REFUSE.

EXPENDITURE.	Year ended 31.12.30.	Year ended 31.12.31.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wages	2,424 7 8	2,413 12 8
Teamwork	766 19 9	728 16 8
Contributions—Superannuation ...	96 12 0	90 13 3
National Health Insurance	40 4 6	43 15 8
Unemployment Insurance	21 10 2	19 6 11
Workmen's Compensation Insurance	5 8 9	
Tools and Sundries	1 11 0	15 19 1
Coal and Coke	19 11 4	
Weighings	3 10 0	
Sundry expenses	151 0 0	75 1 6
S. D. Freighter—1/5th Cost	44 19 11	
Petrol and oil	36 11 4	110 8 1
Repairs	11 3	
Tools and sundries	6 15 10	6 15 10
Insurance	25 0 0	25 0 0
Licence		
Total Expenditure	3,644 13 6	3,529 19 8
Total weight of refuse collected ...	8,746 tons.	9,009 tons.
Cost per ton of refuse collected ..	8/4d.	7/10d.

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

EXPENDITURE.	Year ended 31.12.30.	Year ended 31.12.31.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Wages	1,670 6 11	1,674 7 7
Teamwork	81 10 1	18 16 7
Contributions—Superannuation ...	51 1 2	45 4 1
National Health Insurance	23 14 11	20 3 11
Unemployment Insurance	14 1 8	13 9 7
Workmen's Compensation Insurance	224 8 9	224 8 9
Rates	46 2 6	60 0 0
Tax	2 14 11	3 0 4
Boiler Insurance	80 14 0	87 16 0
Water	28 5 10	29 3 4
Electricity	82 12 4	68 15 2
Plant repairs	45 3 9	20 9 6
Oil, tools and sundries	36 5 0	36 5 0
Rent of tips		18 1 2
Tipping and levelling		
Total Expenditure	2,387 1 10	2,320 1 0
Total weight of refuse disposed of	8,746 tons.	9,009 tons.
Cost (gross) per ton of refuse dis- posed of	5/5½d.	5/1½d.

INCOME.					
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	
Use of steam	200	0 0	450	0 0	
Sale of Scrap Metal	35	8 5	3	18 0	
Proportion of wages recovered (including destroying refuse, tipping and levelling)	65	7 2	70	2 5	
Total income	300	15 7	524	0 5	
Net Cost of Disposal and Destruction of Refuse	2.086	6 3	1,796	0 7	
Total weight of refuse disposed of	8,746 tons.		9,009 tons.		
Net cost of disposal per ton	4/9½d.		3/11½d.		

DISTRICT:—BOROUGH OF BATLEY, YORKSHIRE.
SUMMARY.

	Year 1930.	Year 1931.
Population	34,550	34,573 (Census 1931)
Number of houses	9,925	9,948
Weight of refuse collected	8,746 tons.	9,009 tons.
Weight of refuse collected per house	17.62 cwts.	18.11 cwts.
Weight of refuse collected per 1,000 of population	253.14 tons.	260.6 tons.
Net cost of collection of refuse ...	£3,644.	£3,530.
Net cost of disposal of refuse ...	£2,086.	£1,796.
Net cost of collection of refuse per ton	8/4d.	7/10d.
Net cost of disposal of refuse per ton	4/9½d.	3/11½d.
Net cost of collection and disposal of refuse per ton	13/1½d.	11/9½d.

Average distance of haul (hilly district) 1 mile.

Method of Disposal—

Incineration 66 per cent.

Controlled Tipping 34 per cent.

Type of Haulage—

Collection 1 S. D. Freighter, 7 horses and carts.

Disposal Hired haulage on tonnage rate.

UNIT COSTS.

	COLLECTION.		DISPOSAL.	
	1930.	1931.	1930.	1931.
Net cost per 1,000 houses	£367.15	£354.85	£210.17	£180.54
Net cost per house	7/4d.	7/1d.	4/2½d.	3/7½d.
Net cost per 1,000 population	£105.46	£102.1	£60.37	£51.95
Net cost per head of population ...	2/1½d.	2/0½d.	1/2½d.	1/0½d.

BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

REPORT ON EXISTING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COLLECTION OF HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE WITHIN THE BOROUGH, AND SUGGESTIONS WITH REGARD TO FURTHER ECONOMIES POSSIBLE BY MEANS OF MODIFICATIONS IN STAFF AND FORMS OF TRANSPORT.

In the last three years the Department has lost the services of several employees and three horses. Two more employees retire on superannuation in March, 1932. It would, therefore, appear opportune that the Public Health Committee should give careful consideration as to any further advance possible in the way of economy and efficiency by means of reorganisation.

As the matter is somewhat involved, it is thought the Committee would prefer a detailed report for careful perusal by each member, before formal consideration is given at a meeting, and definite arrangements approved.

In the first place, it is important that the exact nature of the work to be done should be clearly understood.

The staff makes weekly calls at over 10,000 premises, each two or more of which use a dustbin or ashpit in common, except where a dustbin is provided for the exclusive use of a single house.

As determined by the careful weighing and recording of a very high proportion of all refuse collected during the year 1930, the total weight of refuse collected during that year was 8,746 tons. Apart from moderate variations in yield due to abnormal seasonal conditions of warmth, cold, rain or drought, which all affect the matter, this may safely be accepted as the normal amount of refuse to be dealt with annually in the Borough.

The next point is that the 8,746 tons of refuse collected annually are not spread evenly over the year, a fact which has a great bearing on organisation. On referring to the Chart shewing seasonal variation in the yield of House and Trade Refuse, attached hereto, it will be seen that for 1930, January yielded just over 915 tons of refuse; then, with some variation, the yield fell until by June it reached slightly over 600 tons. This remained fairly constant until September, when, with the approach of colder weather, the yield rose through 735 tons in October and 808 tons in December to a maximum of just below 915 tons in January, 1931. With some

special variation due to the adverse weather conditions during the summer of 1931, the graph for the year 1931 generally confirms the accuracy of the figures for 1930 both as regards actual weights and seasonal variation month by month. It may be pointed out in passing that the surprising increase as shewn between February and March, and fall between October and November, is more apparent than real, and is explained by the different numbers of days in the respective months.

Inasmuch as the amounts of refuse to be collected month by month vary from just over 600 tons in June, July, August and September to a maximum of just over 900 tons in January, it will be obvious that the staff, to be efficient and economical, should be sufficiently elastic in organisation to cope with the peak yield in Winter, and yet capable of reduction in Summer so as to save as much as possible whilst the yield is at its lowest. This does not mean that in Summer the staff should be reduced to the extent of one-third, that is, in the proportion of 900 to 600 according to the varying seasonal tonnages dealt with, because, whatever the weights collected, there is still the same number of premises to be visited weekly, irrespective of the particular season.

The savings in cost of collection in 1930 as detailed in the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, were achieved, firstly, by working the staff to proper efficiency during the heavy winter period, so cutting out the systematic engagement of hired team labour which obtained formerly, and, secondly, by reducing staff during the summer months sufficient to ensure that the employees and vehicles remaining were worked to proper efficiency according to the depleted yield of refuse.

The arrangement put in operation has been as follows:—The S.D. Freighter and seven horses and carts normally deal with the winter yield. A hired cart is only engaged temporarily during this heavy season as and when required to recover ground lost through holidays. Thus, the two days' stoppage of the whole staff at Christmas represents lost ground in collection equivalent to nineteen days' work for one horse and cart. As early as possible in June the S.D. Freighter is taken off the road, overhauled and decarbonised. No hired transport is engaged to replace it during its temporary absence. When the Freighter is brought again into commission, arrears in collection are quickly recovered and before the end of the month one horse and cart is transferred to the General Works Department, where it remains until October. Dur-

ing July and August, when the yield has definitely reached its minimum, a second horse and cart is taken off refuse collection for a period of about seven weeks. The "throwers-out" released by the transfer to other duties of two horses and carts, take their own annual holidays, and then fill in turn the places of the various members of the staff who take their annual holidays, or, on occasion, may be absent from duty through sickness. By such means, not only is economy effected by reducing staff during Summer, but the Freighter is overhauled, and the employees given their annual holidays, without the necessity of engaging outside transport or labour by way of temporary replacement.

After due experience under conditions in which every effort has been made by organisation to obtain efficiency, it may be said the staff and vehicles are now utilised, so far as can be seen, to the best advantage. It would, therefore, appear that any further advance in economy can perhaps best be obtained by an extension of mechanical transport to displace certain obsolete and uneconomical horses and carts.

Referring to Table No. 1, attached hereto, it will be seen that in point of the number of loads of refuse collected, certain horses and carts are less efficient than others. Thus horses and carts numbered 1, 2, 4 and 6, operating chiefly in Staincliffe, Healey, Batley Carr, Soothill and Hanging Heaton respectively, are less efficient because of the greater length of haul to the places of disposal. It is obviously these uneconomical carts which should be specially selected for displacement by mechanical transport. Soothill and Hanging Heaton, however, are areas with such difficult gradients, and numerous inaccessible courts and passages to negotiate in the course of refuse collection—also, Grange Road tip being a very difficult place of access to mechanical transport—that it will be well for the present to continue with horse transport in these areas. Horses and carts numbered 1, 2 and 4, operating chiefly in Staincliffe, Healey, White Lee and Batley Carr, it will be seen collected during the year 2,389 tons of refuse; the Freighter collected during the same year 2,354 tons of refuse. It would, therefore, appear that a Freighter similar to that already in operation should be capable of doing the work of these three horses and carts.

As regards the type of mechanical vehicle to be employed, it will be well to keep away from mere theory and base calculations on the vehicle in respect of which the Corporation has had thorough practical experience under actual conditions of working, according to the peculiar conditions of the district.

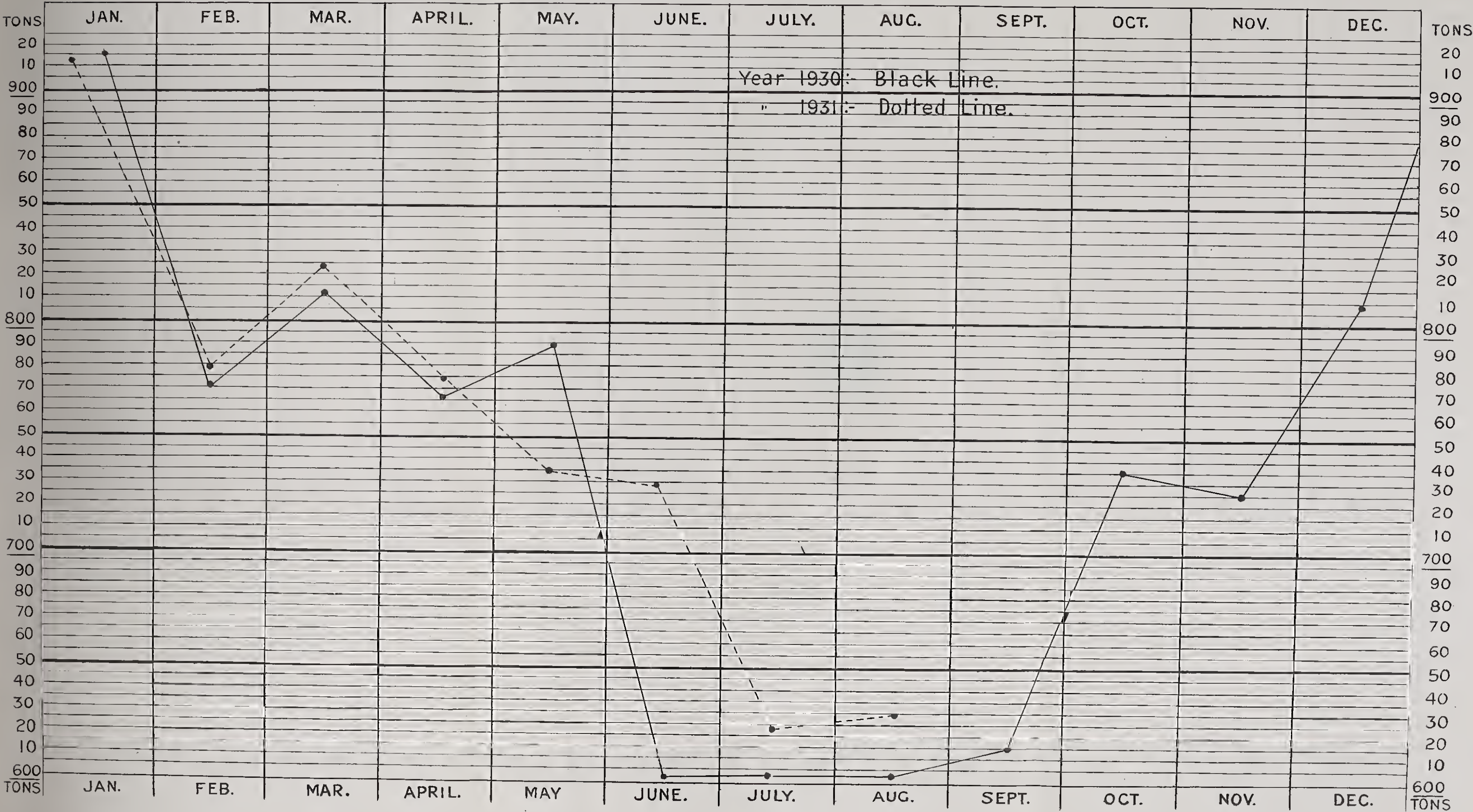
Batley, it must be remembered, is a difficult district to furnish with just the correct type of vehicle. In contrast to many towns whose topographical features are more or less flat, with comparatively wide back streets, facilitating ease in refuse collection, our local conditions involve the negotiation of many inconvenient gradients, with ashpits and bins situate in courts and passages often difficult of access. These special circumstances have all to be kept in mind when dealing with problems in connection with the collection of refuse. The ideal vehicle for Batley is obviously one of maximum capacity in relation to minimum overall dimensions. It must have a short turning radius to get as near as possible to the matter to be loaded and must be capable of starting and stopping easily without undue wear and tear. This is important when it is realised that every yard gained or lost by the vehicle in getting near to a bin or ashpit means three or even four yards to the employee, who must of necessity go from the vehicle to the bin, carry the latter to the vehicle, return the empty bin to the premises, and retrace his steps to the vehicle, or go to the next bin. The vehicle must also be "low-loading" in design to give the employees an opportunity of loading expeditiously without undue fatigue losses. In these respects the S.D. Freighter appears to have a distinct advantage over the majority of vehicles made specially for this particular type of work. It has a maximum capacity of two tons or six cubic yards of refuse, with only small outside dimensions. Having a wheel base of only 6ft. 6in. it has the smallest turning radius of almost all the vehicles of similar capacity on the market.

As regards initial cost the Freighter is not cheap compared with other makes; but it will be recognised that cheapness does not necessarily mean economy. In circumstances like ours, where in case of breakdown four employees are brought to a standstill and no vehicles are kept in reserve against breakdown, reliability is an all-important feature, which it is true economy to pay for.

The S.D. Freighter came into commission at the beginning of 1928 and cost £622 10s. 0d., the loan being repaid in annual instalments and interest spread over a period of five years. The final instalment will, therefore, be paid in 1932. The vehicle was purchased under a two years' guarantee, so that for this period of its service the makers carried out at their own expense an appreciable amount of inspection and repair work. The report of the makers' engineer who carried out the overhaul in June, 1931, was to the effect that, with ordinary care, the vehicle should be good

BOROUGH OF BATLEY.

CHART SHEWING SEASONAL VARIATION IN THE YIELD OF HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE FOR THE BOROUGH. YEARS 1930 AND 1931.



for some years of service after it is finally paid for. This being so, it is probable that, as compared with horse transport, higher savings than those already demonstrated will be shewn.

During the year 1930, 6,392 tons of refuse were collected by horse transport at a cost of 8/8d. per ton. The Freighter collected 2,354 tons of refuse at a cost of 7/5d. per ton. (See page 35, Annual Report of Medical Officer of Health for the year 1930). The saving per ton in favour of the Freighter was thus 1/3d. ; or, for the year, a sum of £147 2s. 6d. It may, therefore, be safely concluded that at the end of the fifth year the vehicle will not only have paid for itself but over and above that will have saved a sum of £735 ; that is, an amount exceeding its own original cost by over £100. This may be said to be a substantial saving, and one which suggests that the methods by which it has been achieved should be extended if possible.

Members of the Committee have in the past questioned the suitability of the Freighter on the grounds of its small wheels, causing liability of sinking on the tips, and lack of speed. It may be said that the object of small wheels is to give a low loading line to facilitate loading, and that it is only when a driver is not sufficiently experienced that trouble arises on the tips. The same type of vehicle can now be obtained with bigger wheels and fitted with pneumatic tyres.

As regards speed, the vehicle is governed at about 12 miles an hour. Any greater speed would be of little practical advantage under the particular conditions of working. The best available type of vehicle for a district like Batley would appear to be very largely a compromise between many advantages and disadvantages. In fact, there does not appear to be a vehicle made to suit exactly every requirement ; but local experience with the S.D. Freighter goes to show that its many good features entirely outweigh in importance the objections which have been brought against it from time to time.

Attached hereto are particulars of a suggested scheme of re-organisation which the Committee, after due consideration, might approve and decide to recommend to the Town Council.

H. HORNBY,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Medical Officer's Department,
Market Place, Batley,
7th October, 1931.

SUGGESTED SCHEME OF REORGANISATION TO COME INTO OPERATION AS FROM APRIL 1st, 1932.

Exclusive of the removal of clinkers from the Destructor Works which is now moved by contract, the present permanent staff engaged in the collection of refuse is as follows:—

1 S. D. Freighter (4 Men)	} In addition there is one extra man remaining on the staff following the recent loss of his horse.
6 Horses and Carts (12 Men)	

NOTE.—This is one horse and cart less than that required to make up the winter normal staff; one horse having recently died.

If three of the above horses and carts were displaced by an additional S.D. Freighter the permanent staff necessary would become as follows:—

- 2 S. D. Freighters (8 Men).
- 3 Horses and Carts (6 Men).

This reduces the number of necessary permanent employees by two, which reduction would be brought about partly by the non-replacement of two men who enter on superannuation at the end of March, 1932; as a competent motor driver would have to be engaged—there not being a suitable man amongst the existing staff to promote to the post,—there would still remain two employees for whom there would not at the time of reorganisation be permanent work. Of these, one would be required as thrower-out for a proposed hired cart during the Winter. As regards the second, the matter should resolve itself, as an employee, additional to those retiring in March, 1932, is due to retire on superannuation in May, 1932, and his post need not be filled.

All the members of the staff have in the past been exempt from unemployment insurance by the Corporation, in which circumstance the Committee will not in ordinary fairness wish to relieve any of them of their means of livelihood. If it could be arranged for one man to be transferred to the General Works Department during the summer, when, as has been shewn, the amount of refuse to be collected falls, any difficulty in regard to reorganising the staff would be overcome.

The above permanent staff, as reorganised, would be equal to the summer yield. (See chart shewing seasonal variation in the yield of refuse). Additional hired team labour would be engaged as and when required during winter to deal with the extra amount of refuse represented by the peak yield.

TABLE No. 1.

SHEWING DISTRICT SERVED BY EACH VEHICLE, AND THE NUMBER OF LOADS AND TOTAL WEIGHT OF REFUSE
COLLECTED DURING THE YEAR 1930.

VEHICLE.	DISTRICTS SERVED.	PLACES OF DISPOSAL.	Amount of Refuse Collected Annually		Remarks.
			Loads.	Tons.	
S. D. Freighter.	Whole of North Ward—i.e., Upper Batley, Howden Clough, Housing Estate, Brookroyd, Carlinghow, Bradford Road, White Lee, etc. District extended during summer.	Chiefly Destructor Works. Few loads tipped at White Lee, Grange Road and Mount Pleasant.	1,318	2,354	
Horse and Cart No. 1.	Chiefly West Ward—Staincliffe. Assistance in other areas.	Chiefly Destructor Works and Mount Pleasant Tip. Few loads taken to Grange Road and White Lee.	755	571	Worked only 9 months during the year.
Horse and Cart No. 2.	West Ward—Healey, portion of Staincliffe and White Lee.	Chiefly Destructor Works, White Lee and Cross Bank Tips. Few loads to Mount Pleasant and Grange Road.	1,203	870	
Horse and Cart No. 3.	West Ward—Chiefly Cross Bank, Dark Lane, Woodwell, Carlinghow Lane. Assistance in other areas.	Chiefly Destructor Works and Mount Pleasant. Few loads to White Lee, Grange Road, Walker's and Grammar School Tips.	1,232	909	
Horse and Cart No. 4.	East Ward—Batley Carr, Warwick Road.	Chiefly Destructor Works. Few loads to Mount Pleasant, Grange Road and Walker's Tips.	1,223	948	
Horse and Cart No. 5.	East Ward—Central areas of Town, i.e., Commercial Street, Queen Street and Hume Street areas.	Chiefly Destructor Works and Mount Pleasant. Few loads to Grange Road, White Lee, Cross Bank and Walker's Tips.	1,498	1,044	
Horse and Cart No. 6.	Soothill Ward—Soothill and Hanging Heaton.	Chiefly Grange Road Tip. Few loads to Mount Pleasant and Destructor Works.	1,200	936	
Horse and Cart No. 7.	East Ward—Mount Pleasant and portion of Dark Lane area.	Chiefly Destructor Works and Mount Pleasant. Few loads to Grange Road Tip.	1,368	898	Portion of total time engaged on disinfection.
Horse and Cart Hired	Miscellaneous areas.	(Destructor Works, White Lee and Mount Pleasant Tips.)	297	216	Cart hired from time to time during Winter to recover arrears in collection arising from holidays.
			TOTAL 8,746 tons.		



On a tonnage basis the work done annually would be as follows :—

2 S.D. Freighters collecting 2,354 tons each	= 4708 tons.
Horse and cart No. 3 retained (see Table No. 1)	= 909 tons.
Horse and cart No. 5 retained (see Table No. 1)	= 1044 tons.
Horse and cart No. 6 retained (see Table No. 1)	= 933 tons.
Collected by Hired Carts in winter during peak yield	= 1149 tons.
<hr/>	
Annual Yield	8746 tons.

As regards savings which might be expected to accrue by such reorganisation, the following might be confidently expected :—

Cost of Collection during 1930 on the basis of 1 Freighter, and 7 permanent horses and carts See Table IV., Page 35, Report of Medical Officer of Health, 1930.	} = £3,644 13 6
--	-----------------

Cost of Collection by reorganised methods as suggested:—

		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
4708	tons of refuse collected by						
	Freighters at 7/5d. per ton ... =	1745	17	8			
4038	tons of refuse collected by						
	Horses and Carts at 8/8 per ton =	1749	16	0			
		<hr/>			3495	13	8

Estimated Annual Saving = 149 0 0

This would appear to be a conservative estimate, as the 1,149 tons of refuse collected by hired transport would be at a rather cheaper rate than that estimated.

H. HORNBY,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

WORK OF SANITARY INSPECTORS UNDER ARTICLE 19 OF THE SANITARY OFFICERS' ORDER, 1926.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK CARRIED OUT: YEAR 1931.

Total number of inspections and re-inspections made 9,291

	Primary.		Re-inspections.	
Details:—	Day.	Evening.		
Housing (I of D.) Regs.	157	—		703
Re sanitary defects	1145	—		2965
Infectious Diseases	136	27		15
Verminous and dirty houses	42	1		53
Overcrowding	63	—		119
Re water supply	6	—		—
Common Lodging Houses	5	2		—
Factories	13	—		5
Workshops	19	—		2
Workplaces	5	—		1
Bakehouses	54	—		4
Drains inspected	334	4		41
Drains tested	186	—		1
Smoke Observations	295	—		—
Factories (Smoke Nuisance)	25	—		—
Offensive Trades	9	—		—
Stables	12	—		5
Swine, fowls and other animals	13	—		8
Tents, vans and sheds	9	—		1
Schools	9	—		2
Tips and plots of waste ground	47	—		1
Sewers, etc.	29	—		2
Rat infested premises	8	—		—
Miscellaneous visits	662	6		2
Slaughterhouses	1033	118		—
Meat shops	218	98		—
Provision and other food shops	9	—		—
Fried Fish and Chip Shops	136	—		—
Ice Cream Premises	25	—		—
Dairies and Milk Shops	58	—		—
Cowsheds	150	—		—
Markets	61	38		—
Sample of Food and Drugs	94	—		—
Totals	5067	294		3930

Informal Notices served	676
Informal Notices complied with	507
Statutory Notices served	96*
Statutory Notices complied with	164*
Number of complaints received	204

* NOTE.—The excess of Statutory Notices complied with over Statutory Notices served is due to a number served in 1930 being complied with in 1931.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

A long time has elapsed since John Evelyn wrote of "pre-sumptuous smoake" rising above Whitehall and endangering the health of Charles II. No doubt he would be shocked if he could see the conditions in Batley and similar industrial towns to-day.

The following remarks are by Mr. H. Hornby, Senior Sanitary Inspector:—

The general position in relation to smoke abatement having been stated at length in the Annual Reports for 1928, 1929 and 1930, it is proposed to refer only briefly to the subject in this report:—

The number of observations taken was 295, as against 227 for the previous year. Engineers and firemen were interviewed on 25 occasions and twenty notices were forwarded to offending firms.

The accompanying table of smoke observations shews fairly satisfactory results so far as a casual check on a particular chimney for a limited number of minutes will indicate. It will be realised that a number of chimneys which appear quite good according to the table would not shew such satisfactory results had the observations been taken at periods when nuisances were particularly liable to occur, that is, when starting up at early morning or after the mid-day break, or in the case of fluctuating loads when the steam demand suddenly fell or rose according to circumstances. Many smoke nuisances arise locally not from difficult conditions of working but from dirty fires with the fuel heaped up at the front of the furnace, the back of the fire-bars being uncovered and thus admitting cold air at a wrong point.

During the year an important move was made by the National Smoke Abatement Society with regard to the administration of the law governing the subject. Support was sought from various local and other authorities to a proposal for the setting up of Statutory Regional Committees to control industrial smoke emission throughout the country. The effect of such a change would be to transfer powers of control from local councils to a Committee exercising authority over a large area or group of towns. Such a Committee would have its own staff of Inspectors acting independently of local public health administration. After careful consideration, the West Riding of Yorkshire Regional Smoke Abatement Committee, a purely advisory body on which the Batley Town Council is represented, found itself unable to support the

proposal. A similar conclusion was reached on the question being considered by the Public Health Committee of the Batley Town Council.

Much effort has yet to be expended in public health education before public opinion can be said to be ripe by definite conviction to support measures wide enough in their scope to put an end to the gigantic evil of atmospheric pollution. So long as the £80,000,000 worth per annum of waste and damage resulting in this country from smoke emission and the evidence as to widespread injury to health, are only regarded as exaggerated items in a stunt advertisement, rather than serious facts, the existing dirty state of the atmosphere must go unabated and work its mischief.

It may, however, be prophesied with certainty that sooner or later, according as the public realises the truth, the burning of bituminous coal in open fires and inefficient industrial furnaces commonly in use to-day will be prohibited by law. But such can only be made possible by gas, electricity, and smokeless fuel, either in combination or separately, making it practicable to heat, cook and provide industrial power at a slightly less cost than that offered by coal as ordinarily distributed and used to-day. This, it must be admitted, is a great problem, and one which lies at the heart of the whole matter.

H. HORNBY,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS, 1931.

Chimney.	Number of Observations.	Total mins. Observations. taken.	Av. mins. of dense black smoke calculated upon obser-	Av. mins. of dense other than black smoke calculated upon obser-
			vations taken.	vations taken.
Albion Oil Works	3	90	Nil.	Nil.
Alexandra Mill	10	300	.7	1.3
Anchor Mill	6	180	.04	Nil.
Batley Corporation—				
Electricity Works	13	390	Nil.	.23
Public Baths	3	90	Nil.	Nil.
Batley Co-op. Slaughter House	2	60	Nil.	.25
Bankfoot Mill	7	210	.11	.18
Bankfoot Foundry Co., Ltd. ...	5	150	Nil.	.35
Brights Mill	7	210	Nil.	.3
Blakeridge Mill	7	210	.07	.18
Bottoms Mill—Low Chimney ...	8	240	1.1	.28
Tall Chimney	11	330	.5	.3
Branch Road Mill	7	210	.29	1.14

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS (Continued).

Chimneys.	Number of Observations.	Total Mins. Observations.	Av. mins. of dense black smoke calculated upon obser- vations taken.	Av. mins. of dense other than black smoke calculated upon obser- vations taken.
Brookroyd Mill	6	180	1.17	Nil.
Carlinghow Mill	2	60	.25	.75
Carr Top Mill	3	90	.3	.7
Chapel Fold Mill	7	210	.3	.7
Cheapside Mill	5	150	Nil.	.15
Clerk Green Mill	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Dale Street Mill	5	150	.2	.8
Dewsbury and District Laundry	7	210	.64	1.4
Dewsbury Co-op. Slaughter House	2	34	2	Nil.
Dock Ing Mill	6	180	1.25	.17
Foxson's Mill, Staincliffe	8	240	Nil.	.3
Garage, Geo. Box, Ltd.	1	30	Nil.	6.0
Healey Lane Mill (S. Sykes) ...	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Hick Lane Mill	3	90	.50	Nil.
Hick Well Mill	4	120	.31	Nil.
Highfield Mill	6	180	.3	.4
Ineson's Mill, Field Lane	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Ings Mill (Burrows)	1	30	Nil.	2.0
Lady Ann Mill	5	150	.40	1.05
Little Orme Mill	7	210	1.07	.36
Livingstone Mill	9	270	Nil.	8
New Ing Mill	11	330	.48	.61
Old Mill	7	210	.29	1.18
Park Lane Mill	5	126	1.55	.35
Printworks	6	180	1.1	2.00
Providence Mill, Smithies Moor Lane	3	90	.67	Nil.
Queen Street Mill	10	300	.48	.61
Ridings Mill	2	60	Nil.	Nil.
Savile Mill	7	210	.4	.4
Saxton's Savile Mill—Steel Chimney	3	90	Nil.	Nil.
Spafeld Mill, Batley Carr ...	3	90	Nil.	Nil.
Spring Mill, Staincliffe	7	210	.14	.78
Spring Mill, Carlinghow Lane	2	60	Nil.	.37
Springfield Mill	6	180	1.3	1.2
Staincliffe Low Mill	8	240	.7	.43
Talbot Street Reed Works ...	1	30	Nil.	Nil.
Victoria Mill, Batley Carr ...	8	240	.43	1.65
Victoria Mill, Carlinghow ...	6	180	Nil.	Nil.
Victoria Oil Works	5	150	.3	.8
Warwick Road Brickworks ...	4	120	Nil.	Nil.
Wensleydale Mill	4	120	.5	Nil.
Wheatcroft Mill	5	123½	.9	.5
Fried Fish Shops	3	—	—	—
Total	295	—	—	—

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES :—

No. of Houses, 2 ; Keepers, 2 ; Inspections, 7.

The houses are small concerns consisting of five sleeping rooms capable of accommodating 46 lodgers in the one case and four sleeping rooms used by 21 lodgers in the other.

Both premises are only poor as regards the arrangement of the various rooms and conveniences and general suitability for the purposes used.

One house is run on fairly satisfactory lines and is maintained clean and orderly. It is regretted the same remarks do not apply to the other, where cleanliness and general control do not reach the standard desired. In this instance it was necessary to call the registered keeper before the Public Health Committee to explain his conduct regarding the falsification of certain statements shewing the names of all lodgers and the town or other place where each last slept in, which keepers of Common Lodging Houses are required to hand in daily to the Public Health Department. The keeper's explanation was most unsatisfactory, and, on the evidence available, it appeared to the Public Health Committee that he understated the number of lodgers with a view to influencing in his favour a Board of Referees at the Employment Exchange, who at the time were considering his claim for unemployment benefit and demanded particulars of his income. The same keeper's unsatisfactory behaviour has since led to his conviction by a Court of Summary Jurisdiction on a charge preferred by the Police. In such circumstances it is hardly reasonable to expect that the house to which the foregoing unfavourable criticisms relate will be carried on satisfactorily under the control of the present keeper.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES :—

No. of premises, 13. Inspections, 1,151.

Under this heading in the Annual Reports for 1929 and 1930, reference was made to a Sub-Committee which had been appointed by the Public Health Committee to consider the history of every slaughter-house in the Borough with a view to final classification of every such establishment under one of the headings, i.e., "Registered," "Licensed prior to 1890," and "Annually Licensed."

The Sub-Committee did not meet during the year, so that the legal position with regard to the older slaughterhouses in the town still remains indefinite. This may, in certain circumstances, be the cause of considerable expenditure to the ratepayers, as previously shewn. Attention is again drawn to the danger.

The poor condition and lack of general suitability of most local slaughterhouses was treated fully in pages 36, 37 and 43 of the Annual Reports for the year 1927, 1928 and 1930 respectively.

The adverse comments and suggestions made therein apply with equal force to-day.

OFFENSIVE TRADES :—

No. of premises, 3 (excluding Fried Fish Shops).

No. of Inspections, 9.

The number of inspections given above does not represent the actual inspections made as two important premises are run in conjunction with slaughterhouses, and visits are included in inspections under that heading. The processes carried on are Tripe Boiling, Fat Rendering and Gut Scraping. The premises are in the main satisfactory. The tripe boiling and fat rendering premises at the rear of Commercial Street, which were unfavourably commented on in the last Annual Report, have been considerably improved. Being situate in the vicinity of occupied property in the middle of the town, serious effluvium nuisances formerly arose from scorching of fat by the directly heated pans. These have been abolished in favour of a steam boiler with jets laid on to the respective pans. This improvement has not only abated the effluvium nuisance, but by making a more generous supply of boiling water available, has led to greater general cleanliness.

FRIED FISH SHOPS :—

No. of premises, 68. No. of inspections, 136.

No. of premises improved, 18.

Steady progress continues to be made towards raising the hygienic standard of these premises to what is required by the Byelaws with respect to Offensive Trades, put into force by the Corporation on the 7th February, 1930.

The necessity for newcomers into the trade to formally obtain the permission of the Town Council before commencing business, is a valuable measure, and one which is reflected in the better type of premises opened during the past two years.

COWSHEDS :—

No. of Cowsheds, 36.

No. of Milk Cows, 262.

No. of Cowkeepers, 18.

No. of Cowkeepers who are also retail purveyors of milk, 7.

No. of Retail Purveyors with premises in the Borough, 43.

No. of Retail Purveyors with premises outside the Borough, 37.

In pages 45 and 46 of the Annual Report for 1930 particulars were given of the efforts made, and improvements effected, in respect of the premises dealt with under this heading.

Every endeavour was made during the year under review to advance upon the progress thus made.

It may be pointed out that although the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, gives extensive powers to Local Authorities to require constructional improvements of cowsheds and dairies, it would appear that the person on whom such demands may be made, is limited, strictly according to the Order, to the registered cowkeeper, dairyman or purveyor of milk. Where nearly all cowkeepers are simply tenant-farmers, as obtains in this Borough, the difficulties are obvious. Notwithstanding this limitation of the Corporation's powers, great improvements have been effected simply by choosing the premises most in need of constructional repair or alteration; then conferring with the respective Estate Agents and arranging a programme of cowshed improvements for the year.

The following works carried out during 1931 were secured by such procedure :—

CROFT FARM, UPPER BATLEY.

Old cowshed abolished, the building re-arranged, and enlarged to form a modern cowshed fitted with rear walk, manure channel and standings cast in situ in impervious concrete; also furnished with modern stall divisions, automatic drinking bowls separate to each pair of cows, and adequate means of natural lighting and ventilation provided. All internal walls were rendered with Portland cement and made cleanly and impervious. The cowshed was also fitted with electric light.

CROFT HOUSE FARM, CARLINGHOW.

New dairy constructed and fitted with necessary appliances,

CROSS BANK FARM.

Means of natural lighting and ventilation considerably improved.

CROFT HOUSE FARM, SOOTHILL.

New manure midden provided and improvements to drainage and pavements effected.

THE FARM, HEYBECK.

New manure midden and liquid manure tank provided and improvements to drainage effected.

GENERAL.

So far as the immediate future is concerned, definite promises have been given to re-construct three cowsheds and carry out lesser improvements at several others during the year 1932. Further, the necessity for improvements in other milk producing premises will be pointed out to the respective Estate Agents with a view to putting into progress additional constructional alterations urgently needed.

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS:—

No. on the Register, 34. Inspections, 58.

ICE-CREAM PREMISES:—

No. of premises, 23. Inspections, 25.

BAKEHOUSES:—

No. of premises, 34. Inspections, 54.

No. of premises improved, 8.

All the above three classes of premises have been kept under observation and attention given to nuisances and defects as and when such matters have arisen.

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

There have been only eight inspections of rat infested premises, resulting in the necessary action being taken by occupiers.

The comparative freedom of the town from rats did not justify an intensive campaign during National Rat Week, 1931.

Advertisements inserted in the local Press inviting complaints to the Department during the week mentioned resulted in little response, there being only two applications for advice, both respecting minor infestations.

A letter on the subject was written by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and appeared in the correspondence columns of three local newspapers.

MISCELLANEOUS (OTHER SANITARY CONDITIONS REQUIRING NOTICE):—

There has not been any occasion during the year to register any dwelling-house as Houses-let-in-Lodgings, though Bye-laws are in force in the Borough. The Bye-laws with respect to Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures used for human habitation continue to be useful. As regards Underground Sleeping Rooms, the Regulations adopted in 1927 may be placed amongst those resulting in the greatest practical service to that section of the people living under the least desirable conditions, that is, so far as amenities influencing health are concerned. These regulations act as a definite standard to work by when improvements are indicated to owners, and in this sense they exert a real influence for good, where most wanted, in an informal and unobtrusive manner. It is worthy of note that Sec. 62 of the Housing Act, 1930, gives added force to these Bye-laws by stating "In determining for the purpose of this Act whether a house is fit for human habitation, regard shall be had to the extent, if any, to which by reason of disrepair or sanitary defects the house falls short of the provisions of any BYELAWS in operation in the district, or of the general standard of housing accommodation for the working classes in the District."

ARRANGEMENTS FOR DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD:—

The Batley Cemetery, owned by the Corporation, is sufficient for immediate requirements. Cremation, which is the most hygienic method of disposal of the dead, is making much progress in this, and other, countries. In any extension of facilities in the future this method, which is of great antiquity, should have consideration, in addition to other ideas. Last year there were 5,135 cremations, or one per cent. of the actual deaths in Great Britain, an increase of 662 on the previous year.

SCHOOLS:—

A separate report, being the Annual Report of the School Medical Officer, is made to the Town Council through its Education Committee.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 and 1928.

One sample was taken and submitted to the Public Analyst, who reported as follows:—

"This sample yielded 164.6 parts per 100,000 of chlorine as soluble chlorides. The maximum allowed by the Regulations is 30 parts. This sample, therefore, contains over 5 times the maximum allowed of chlorine as soluble chlorides."

The matter was reported to the Public Health Committee at its meeting on Wednesday, the 22nd April, 1931. The following is the minute recorded:—

“The Senior Sanitary Inspector submitted the report of the Public Analyst on his analysis of a sample of rag flocks submitted to him by the Inspector for analysis, from which it appeared that the sample yielded 164.6 parts per one hundred thousand of chlorine as soluble chlorides: the maximum allowed by the Regulations being 30 parts. The Inspector reported the circumstances in which the sample was taken.

Resolved:—That under the special circumstances in which this sample was taken, no proceedings be instituted against the vendor thereof, but that such vendor be requested to defray the cost of the Analyst's report thereon.”

These Acts prohibit for sale or use, for the purpose of making any article of upholstery, cushions or bedding, of unclean flocks manufactured from rags. The expression “flock manufactured from rags” is defined as flock which has been produced wholly or partly by tearing up woven or knitted or felted materials, whether old or new, but does not include flock obtained wholly in the process of scouring and finishing of newly woven or newly knitted or newly felted fabrics.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Full particulars of the Public Health Department's policy and activities in the above matter are contained on pages 50 and 51 of the Annual Report for 1931. The remarks made therein apply with equal force at the present time.

As regards “Better Health,” a journal controlled by the Central Council for Health Education set up by the Society of Medical Officers of Health, of which one thousand copies are normally distributed in the Borough monthly, the regular supply was unfortunately interrupted during a period of some months, following the withdrawal of several local advertisers, without whose support publication was impossible. This was regarded as a great setback to a very valuable work already performed under difficulties created by the long sustained lack of support by the Public Health, Maternity and Child Welfare and Education Committees.

It is pleasing to record that the interruption was only temporary and that through the generous support of advertisers in replacement of those who withdrew, regular publication of “Better Health” is again in operation.

In addition to the excellent matter on various subjects relating to health, the Department is allotted space wherein subjects specially applicable to local circumstances are discussed and explained. Thus, opportunity was taken during 1931 to publish articles by the Senior Sanitary Inspector on the subjects under-mentioned :—

Simple Cleanliness.

Fog—The Arch-enemy of Public Health.

Public Health and the Damp House.

Milk and its relation to Public Health.



HOUSING STATISTICS.

In order that the particulars asked for may be accurately given, the several heads have been read as a whole before the form was filled up, **and care has been taken to avoid duplication**; for example, a defective house remedied twice during the year has been counted once only.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1236
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	4260
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	137
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	288
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	17
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	911

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	738
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CLOSING ORDERS: HOUSING ACTS, 1909 to 1930.

Particulars are given on pages 37, 43, 44, 46a and 58 of the Annual Reports for 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929 and 1930 respectively. To these the following must be added to shew the position on the 31st December, 1931:—

Situation.	Date of Representation to Public Health Cte.	Date of Closing Order.	Date of Determination of Closing Order.	Date of Demolition Order	Remarks.
5. Yard 9, Cross Bank Road	15. 1.30	7. 5.30	—	5. 8.31	Demolished.
6. Yard 9, Cross Bank Road	15. 1.30	7. 5.30	—	5. 8.31	"
18. Coal Pit Lane	15. 1.30	7. 5.30	—	4. 3.31	"
20. Coal Pit Lane	15. 1.30	7. 5.30	—	4. 3.31	"
234. Healey Lane	19. 3.30	2. 4.30	—	1.10.30	"
236. Healey Lane	19. 3.30	2. 4.30	—	1.10.30	"
14. East Street	— 5.16	1. 6.16	—	6. 8.30	"
16. East Street	— 5.16	1. 6.16	—	6. 8.30	"
51. Bunker's Lane	16. 7.30	6. 8.30	—	4. 3.31	"
55a. Bunker's Lane	16. 7.30	6. 8.30	—	4. 3.31	Further consideration carried over to 1932.
5. Grace Leather Lane	16. 7.30	6. 8.30	5. 8.31	None made.	House made fit.
7. Grace Leather Lane	16. 7.30	6. 8.30	—	None made.	Demolished (voluntarily).
14. Ward's Hill	16. 7.30	6. 8.30	—	None made.	Further consideration carried over to 1932.
16. Ward's Hill	16. 7.30	6. 8.30	—	None made.	
20. Ward's Hill	15.10.30	—	—	None made.	
11. Fox's Yd., Commercial St.	25.11.30	4. 2.31	—	None made.	Cellar dwelling: Vacated.
15. Hume Street	25.11.30	—	—	4. 2.31	Demolished.
131. High St. Hanging Heaton	20. 5.31	—	—	5. 8.31	Further consideration carried over to 1932.
3. Back Spa Street	16. 9.31	—	—	—	Consideration adjourned by the Public Health Committee for a period of one year.
58. Mower's Pl., Ward's Hill	16. 9.31	—	—	—	
60. Mower's Pl., Ward's Hill	16. 9.31	—	—	—	
62-64. Mower's Pl. Ward's Hill	16. 9.31	—	—	—	
28. Albion Street	16. 9.31	2.12.31	—	None made.	Cellar dwelling.
72. Dale Street	16. 9.31	2.12.31	—	None made.	" "
85. Peel Street	16. 9.31	6. 1.32	—	None made.	" "
3. Ct. 5, King St., Batley Carr	16. 9.31	2.12.31	—	None made.	" "
5. Ct. 5, King St., Batley Carr	16. 9.31	2.12.31	—	None made.	" "
7. Ct. 5, King St., Batley Carr	16. 9.31	2.12.31	—	None made.	" "
9. Ct. 5, King St., Batley Carr	16. 9.31	2.12.31	—	None made.	" "
99. High St., Hanging Heaton	16. 9.31	—	—	None made	" "
38. Norfolk Street	15. 7.31	—	—	8.10.31	Further consideration carried over to 1932.
40. Norfolk Street	15. 7.31	—	—	8.10.31	
42. Norfolk Street	15. 7.31	—	—	8.10.31	
79. King Street, Batley Carr	15. 7.31	16. 9.31	—	—	Cellar dwelling.



3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

A—Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930—

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | 27 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :— | |
| (a) By owners | 17 |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners ... | Nil. |

B—Proceedings under Public Health Acts—

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 29 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :— | |
| (a) By owners | 67 |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners ... | Nil. |

C—Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

- | | |
|--|---|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 6 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 3 |

D—Proceedings under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made | 8 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | Nil. |

E—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | Nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :— | |
| (a) By owners | 21 |
| (b) By local authority in default of owners ... | Nil. |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close | Nil. |

F—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :

- | | |
|---|------|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made | Nil. |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit | 1 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 5 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 7 |

NOTE.—The excess of notices complied with over notices served is due to a number brought forward from 1930 being complied with in 1931.

The Borough Engineer kindly supplies the following information :—

“ The Corporation have not erected any houses during 1931. The total number of houses erected by the Corporation since the commencement of operations is as follows :—

1919 Act, 178. 1923 Act, 64. 1924 Act, 126. Total, 368.

During the year 1931 eight subsidy houses have been erected by private enterprise under the 1924 Act and 23 non-subsidy houses have also been erected.”

The remarks by the Medical Officer of Health on pages 52 to 58 of the Annual Report for 1930 have equal effect to-day.

At the meeting of the Public Health Committee on November 25th, 1930, it was resolved :—“ That Visiting Sub-Committees be appointed, to consist of three members of this Committee, with the Chairman (ex-officio) to visit, as and when directed by the Committee, the several premises reported by the Public Health Department from time to time.”

As a result the whole of the members of the Public Health Committee (12) became members of four Visiting Sub-Committees.

The operation of this resolution has resulted in delay, but otherwise the officers of the department have cause to welcome what was a novel departure. The result has been considerable improvement in the actual knowledge of Councillors so far as the existence of insanitary conditions with particular reference to housing is concerned. Where previously it was usual for the officers to be regarded with hostility in such matters it is now common for Councillors to remark they “ would not have believed such conditions could exist,” and similarly.

During the year the Corporation resolved to build 22 houses at Mount Pleasant and their construction is now progressing. It is stated they are for the purpose of re-housing tenants of houses unfit for human habitation.

A special report on overcrowding (177 cases, by the Medical Officer of Health) was considered by the Committees on September 16th, 1931. In November, at a meeting of the Housing and Re-Housing Sub-Committee, the Medical Officer of Health was instructed it was not the intention of the Corporation to consider any scheme for Clearance Areas.

The following is an extract from a speech made by the Mayor of Batley on November 9th, 1931, as published in the local press from which it is abstracted:—

“The Mayor proceeded: The municipal year just ended has been harassing, very difficult and hampered by the slump in trade. Demands on our financial resources have been thrust upon us from all quarters. Legislators have been busy hatching all kinds of ideal schemes called social services and reforms, irrespective of their cost, resulting in expenditure being forced up by leaps and bounds. Had things been allowed to drift, wholesale bankruptcy would inevitably have followed. It did not require a financial expert to point out these facts; any ordinary member of the community could foresee them if he would trouble to think. We, as a Corporation, foresaw what was happening, and in June last a deputation waited on the Ministry of Health—who had been pressing us to spend in a certain direction more than we thought was justifiable—and we prevailed upon them to stay their hand.”

For many years it has been the custom of the Corporation to require a minimum of one water closet to not more than every two houses. This is admittedly a low standard, modern ideas of reasonable accommodation of this nature insisting upon at least one water closet to each house as a necessity, not only in the interests of hygiene, but of decency. In Batley the two houses per convenience has been the deciding factor, the number of occupants of the houses never having been taken into consideration. On many occasions owners of property have been compelled to conform with this low standard. The following are two examples of delay and difficulty in getting insanitary conditions remedied:—

CASE 1.

28th October, 1930.—Informal notice forwarded to an Owner requesting the provision of sufficient sanitary accommodation in circumstances where there were only two water-closets to five occupied houses.

11th May, 1931.—Matter not remedied. Warning letter forwarded by Senior Sanitary Inspector to the Owner.

13th June, 1931.—Medical Officer of Health and Senior Sanitary Inspector interviewed the Owner at the property. Verbal undertaking given by him that one additional water-closet would be provided.

15th July, 1931.—Work not done. Application made by the Senior Sanitary Inspector to the Public Health Committee to serve a Statutory Notice.

Public Health Committee passed the following resolution:—"That the recommendation of the Senior Sanitary Inspector be received and that the requirements as to the provision of an additional water-closet for this property be suspended so long as the house remains without inmates."

The resolution passed by the Committee was not in accordance with the facts, and was obviously due to some wrong impression. The house referred to as "without inmates" was definitely occupied as a dwelling-house by a rent-paying tenant on the day when the resolution was passed and, so far as is known, is still so occupied.

The property still remains without sufficient sanitary accommodation.

There was an outbreak of Enteric Fever in 1922, and this property was involved. The Minister of Health called for a Report, which was prepared by the Medical Officer of Health and published on pages 13 to 26 of the Annual Report for 1922. References to the property appear in that report on several occasions. At a meeting of the Sanitary Committee on September 12th, 1922, the Sanitary Inspector at that date reported the existence of nuisances there. On October 12th, 1922, a statutory notice was served upon the owner requiring him within 28 days to construct an additional water-closet. This was never done and nearly ten years later the same difficulties exist.

CASE 2.

16th October, 1930.—Informal notice forwarded to owner requesting pavement of an insanitary yard, common to two houses.

14th November, 1930.—Warning letter sent to Owner requesting early compliance.

4th January, 1931.—Letter sent by an occupier to the Medical Officer of Health complaining about unpaved state of a yard common to four houses adjoining yard first referred to.

22nd January, 1931.—Senior Sanitary Inspector interviewed the Owner at the properties, who undertook to carry out the necessary works.

23rd January, 1931.—Letter from Senior Sanitary Inspector to Owner accepting verbal undertaking referred to.

15th July, 1931.—Work not done. Application made by Senior Sanitary Inspector to the Public Health Committee to serve a Statutory Notice.
Matter referred to Visiting Sub-Committee.

17th July, 1931.—Both insanitary yards viewed by Visiting Sub-Committee.

16th September, 1931.—Visiting Sub-Committee made its report to the Public Health Committee.

No recommendation made.

Matter re-committed to Visiting Sub-Committee with the addition of another member for investigation and report.

13th October, 1931.—As only the additional member attended, the meeting of the Visiting Sub-Committee could not be held.

20th October, 1931.—As only the Chairman of the Public Health Committee attended, the meeting could not be held.

17th November, 1931.—Matter finally disposed of by the Owner carrying out a minimum of works.

OVERCROWDING.

The following are examples of cases where special action has been taken during the year 1931 to deal with overcrowding. In those which have not been before the Magistrates, a statutory notice to abate the nuisance has been served.

PREMISES.	NO. OF ROOMS and OCCUPANCY	REMARKS.
No. 67, Back Albert Street, Batley Carr.	Back - to - back house.	Case heard at Batley Police Court on the following occasions. 26th Jan. 1931. 19th Oct. 1931. 22nd June, 1931. 30th Oct., 1931. 24th July, 1931. 30th Nov., 1931. 21st Aug., 1931. 25th Jan., 1932. 21st Sept., 1931.
	Two rooms. Fourteen occupants.	
		At the first hearing the Bench made an order for the abatement of the nuisance within twenty-eight days, which the defendant did not obey. The period allowed for abatement was extended by the Magistrates from time to time at later hearings, until finally on the 25th January, 1932, they adjourned the case for six months. This action was taken in spite of an appeal to the Bench by the Public Health Committee, expressed through the Town Clerk for the law to be applied.
No. 1, Goodall's Fold. Upper Commercial St.	Back - to - back house.	Case heard at Batley Police Court on 22nd June, 1931. Order made for the abatement of the nuisance within twenty-eight days and the payment of costs. Order obeyed.
	Two rooms. Eight occupants.	

No. 14, Albert Square, Batley Carr.	Back - to - back house. Two rooms. Nine occupants.	Case heard at Batley Police Court on the following occasions:—26th Jan., 1931; 22nd June, 1931; and 21st Aug., 1931. At the first hearing the Bench made an order to abate the nuisance within twenty days and for payment of costs. The order was only obeyed after two further appearances of the defendant in Court.
No. 33, Cresswell Lane, Staincliffe	Single house. Three rooms. Ten occupants.	Case heard at Batley Police Court on the 22nd June, 1931. Order made for the abatement of the nuisance within twenty-eight days and the payment of costs. Order obeyed.
No. 101. Mount Pleasant Buildings, White Lee	Back - to - back house. Two rooms. Eleven occupants.	Case heard at Batley Police Court on 20th Nov., 1931. Order made for the abatement of the nuisance within twenty-eight days and the payment of costs. Order obeyed.
No. 32, Back Brearley Street, Mount Pleasant	Back - to - back house. Two rooms. Six occupants.	Statutory notice served, not yet obeyed.
No. 66, Healey Street.	Single house. Two rooms. Seven occupants.	Statutory notice complied with.
No. 11, Yard 3, Halifax Road.	Back - to - back house. Two rooms. Ten occupants.	Statutory notice complied with.
No. 40 Beaumont Street, Mount Pleasant.	Back - to - back house. Two rooms. Thirteen occupants.	Statutory notice served, not yet obeyed.

The following remarks are by Mr. Hornby, Senior Sanitary Inspector and Housing Inspector:—

“ In view of the large amount of dwelling-house property in a state of disrepair in Batley, it would appear highly desirable that the machinery provided by the Public Health and Housing Acts for remedying the same should be applied with reasonable expedition.

Unfortunately the system on which we work locally cannot be said to achieve the prompt remedy in the way of property repairs which urgent circumstances frequently merit. Where in the case of a defective dwelling-house the landlord has failed to carry out repairs requested by an informal notice and warning letter from the Senior Sanitary Inspector and the matter is reported with a view to the service of a Statutory Notice, the usual procedure is for the Public Health Committee to appoint a Sub-Committee to visit the property and report.

Whilst such an arrangement evinces a genuine interest and keen sense of responsibility on the part of members generally, the fact remains unaltered that it acts as a serious brake on the activities of the Public Health Department; so much so that it may be said with truth that, so far as matters affecting the housing of the people are concerned, our achievements are not in accord with what ought reasonably to be expected, or with what local environmental shortcomings really demand.

Instead of the present arrangement by which Sub-Committees visit properties after applications to serve Statutory Notices have been made, so causing unnecessary delays, it would be advantageous if a Statutory Action Sub-Committee was appointed to meet monthly on a definite day immediately before the meeting of the Public Health Committee, to consider and report upon properties in respect of which applications to take statutory action were intended to be made. By such means much valuable time would be saved, effort economised, and the work of the Public Health Department greatly facilitated."

FACTORY AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.**1. INSPECTION**

of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspector or
Inspector of Nuisances.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecu- tions. (4)
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	15	2	—
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	29	4	—
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises)	4	—	—
Total	48	6	—

2. DEFECTS FOUND.

in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts.				
Want of Cleanliness	2	3		
Want of Ventilation	1	1		
Overcrowding				
Want of Drainage of Floors				
Other Nuisances	5	5		
Sanitary Accommodation {	insufficient ...	4	2	
	unsuitable or defective ...	4	5	
	not separate for sexes ...		1	
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act.				
Illegal occupation of underground Bake-house (S. 101)				
Other Offences		1		
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)				
Total	16	17	1	

OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.

Nature of Work.	Instances.	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The Senior Sanitary Inspector (Mr. H. Hornby) has compiled a portion of this section:—

(a) MILK SUPPLY. There are seventeen producers of milk within the Borough, but no producers of graded milk.

The following licences were granted to sell Graded Milk in the Borough during the year:—

Certified Milk, 3; Grade A (T.T.) Milk, 2; Grade A Milk, 1.

In addition to 50 samples of milk analysed for purposes of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, and referred to elsewhere in this report, 6 samples of Certified Milk were bacteriologically examined.

The following table shews the results of such examination:—

SAMPLES OF MILK BACTERIOLOGICALLY EXAMINED.									
Class of Milk.	Age. | Temp.		Number of Bacteria.			Presence or absence of			
	Hrs.	°C	Found.	per c.c.	Standard.	Bacillus Found.	Coli. Standard.		
Certified	30	8	175	per c.c.	30,000 per c.c.	Neg.	1 c.c.	Neg. 1/10 c.c.	
"	30	8	1786	per c.c.	do.	do.		do.	
"	31	15	1850	per c.c.	do.	do.		do.	
"	31	15	2516	per c.c.	do.	do.		do.	
"	31	15	21663	per c.c.	do.	do.		do.	
"	31	15	1450	per c.c.	do.	do.		do.	

All the samples referred to complied with the standard of bacterial purity laid down by the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923.

It is of interest to note that with one exception the samples contained only a small proportion of the permissible bacterial content. This raises the question as to whether the standard fixed for this high quality milk is not rather a low one. There is a growing body of opinion that milk produced under cleanly conditions, cooled and bottled at the farm, should be required to possess a much lower bacterial count than 30,000 per cubic centimetre. This view would seem to be strongly supported by the results of examination of samples taken locally during the past few years.

As regards contamination with the germs of tuberculosis, it must be remembered that the figures referred to in the table have no concern with this aspect of the matter. In Certified Milk and Grade A (T.T.) Milk only is there any guarantee that the cows producing are healthy and free from tuberculosis. Further, in Certified Milk only is there any reasonable assurance indicated that the article is both free from dirt and tuberculosis.

Seven samples of milk purchased from various retailers during the summer months and examined by the sediment test—that is, estimating the general cleanliness by the amount of staining of a clean white cotton wool pad through which the milk is forced—were found clean.

Certified Milk has proved that it is the only milk amongst the various kinds and qualities generally retailed that can be relied upon all the time as being free from both dirt and tuberculosis.

The differences between Certified Milk, Grade A (T.T.) Milk and Grade A Milk were fully explained in the Annual Report for 1927. Grade A is the third quality, not the highest.

The idea still persists amongst the public that milk sold in bottles is all of superior quality. This is quite a fallacy, as non-graded bottled milks differ little from milk delivered from the can, because many of the premises where bottling is carried out are not fitted with proper sterilizers and other necessary appliances.

Where milk is sold in bottles the public is advised to request the dealer to shew his licence. The cap on the bottle should also be examined to make certain the contents are graded milk produced under licence and not ordinary milk poured into a bottle for trade purposes only. Complaints have been received from time to time respecting certain dealers bottling milk in the streets or on unregistered premises. As pointed out previously, this is an offence against the Milk and Dairies Order.

The names and addresses of persons licensed to sell graded milks in Batley during 1930 are as follow:—

CERTIFIED MILK—

Gray, Bertha, Holly Croft Farm, Upper Batley.
Haley, George, 15a, Regent Street, Heckmondwike.
Reed, Edgar, 1, Purlwell Lane, Batley.

GRADE A (TUBERCULIN TESTED) MILK—

Carlton, David, 52, Cliffe Street, Dewsbury.
Dixon, Emily, 76, Lidgate Lane, Dewsbury.

GRADE A MILK—

Squires, Phyllis, 33, Owl Lane, Shawcross, Dewsbury.



REPORTS OF THE VETERINARY INSPECTORS.

Veterinary Department,
County Hall, Wakefield,
9th May, 1931.

The Medical Officer of Health,
Borough of Batley.

Dear Sir,

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

I beg to inform you that Mr. J. M. McKellar, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Assistant Veterinary Officer, has recently made an inspection of the cows on the registered milk producers' premises in your Borough, accompanied by your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Hornby.

Mr. McKellar visited 18 farms and examined 275 cows, taking three samples of milk and two of expectorate for bacteriological examination. In one sample of milk tubercle bacilli were demonstrated and the cow responsible was reported to the Officer of your Authority.

Restrictions under Section 5 of the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act of 1915, were placed on one cow suffering from a form of mastitis and another cow was suspected of suffering from Johne's Disease.

With these exceptions the health of the cows was found to be very satisfactory and their cleanliness good, with the exception of those on three farms, where the cows were found to be dirty.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) D. S. RABAGLIATI,
Chief Veterinary Officer.

Bankfoot House, Batley,
17th May, 1931.

Dr. Pearce,
Medical Officer of Health, Batley.

Sir,—I have again the pleasure of submitting a report of my inspection this month of the milk cows in the Borough of Batley.

The general condition and the cows' udders are from a tubercular point of view satisfactory.

CHILD.—Light Roan slight cough, no definite clinical signs of Tuberculosis. It is my intention to visit early.

BROADFIELD.—A suppurating quarter. Strict cleanliness is being observed in this case.

BURROWS.—Indurated quarter ; mentioned previously.

GRAY.—Samples of milk taken from a red cow for microscopic examination I think proved negative.

BROWN.—A Red cow suffering from Johne's Disease. Advised slaughter, was killed and sent to knacker's yard.

Light Roan cow low in flesh ; paying an early visit to this cow.

CRITCHLEY.—Two cases enlarged non-tubercular quarters. We have here 3 cows with superficial scaly quarters, a condition soon disappearing when cows turned out to grass.

MARRIOTT buys Irish cows, low in flesh but a class of cow that with care improves.

Black cow, not in milk, I placed under the Tuberculosis Order, April 2nd, 1931, proved advanced Tuberculosis. This cow was a recent purchase and not on the premises at my previous inspection.

One has experienced a few cases of slight Mastitis due to injured teats and other causes ; if secreting, the secretion is destroyed. A few cases of non-tubercular enlarged quarters and as expected a few deaf quarters.

Considering the number of cows kept in the Borough one is justified in expressing the opinion that the cows generally are quite satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.,
Veterinary Inspector.

Veterinary Department,
County Hall, Wakefield,
8th September, 1931.

Dear Sir,

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

I beg to inform you that Mr. J. M. McKellar, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Assistant Veterinary Officer, has recently made an inspection of the cows on the registered milk producers' premises in your Borough, accompanied by your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Hornby.

Mr. McKellar visited 18 farms and examined 251 cows.

He reports that the health of the cows was good; no case of scheduled disease being met with, and that their cleanliness was found to be satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) D. S. RABAGLIATI,
Chief Veterinary Officer.

Bankfoot House, Batley,
26th December, 1931.

Sir,—I have again the pleasure of submitting a report of my inspection this month of the cows in milk in the Borough.

Considering the number of cows, the general condition, quality of cow and cow's udders satisfactory.

As a result of microscopic examination during this month I scheduled two cows under the 1925 Order.

BROWN, I. G.—This cow, on Post Mortem, proved tubercular—not advanced. This cow a new purchase since the May inspection.

TETLEY.—This cow, on Post-mortem, proved advanced tuberculosis.

A reported sudden death of a cow at Brown I. G. proved negative to anthrax.

I have experienced a few cases of uneven hindquarters of udder not shewing definite clinical signs of tuberculosis.

Two cases of skin affection on hindquarters very irritable; responded well to treatment.

I have removed many afterbirths.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) GEO. WHITEHEAD, M.R.C.V.S.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS :—

The following remarks are mostly by the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. H. Hornby :—

As this important section of Public Health Work was referred to at length in the Annual Reports for 1929 and 1930, wherein various aspects as they affect the matter locally were fully discussed, it is proposed this year only to briefly describe the work carried out and the results thereof.

In all, 1,033 visits by day and 118 by night were made to slaughterhouses ; 218 visits by day and 98 by night to meat shops ; and 61 visits by day and 38 by night to the market. As a result over 7 tons of diseased, unsound or unwholesome meat were condemned and destroyed as unfit for human food. What would have become of this meat had it not got into the hands of the officers of the Corporation ?

On reference to the table shewing Surrenders and Seizures of Unsound Food, Offals, etc., 1931, it may be observed that the amount condemned is less by over 3 tons than that for the previous year. This is due mainly to two causes, namely, the fall in the number of bovine carcases condemned from 13 in 1930 to 6 in 1931, and to the fact that the number of carcases prepared in local slaughterhouses fell, due to an increase in the amount of meat brought into the town after preparation outside. The latter remark warrants the concern of the Public Health Committee, as there is no reasonable assurance that all dead meat brought into the town is properly inspected immediately following slaughter.

Of all meat condemned in the beef class, 84 per cent. was for tuberculosis as against 92 per cent. for the previous year. As regards pigs, 87 per cent. of the total weight condemned was for tuberculosis, as against 92 per cent. for the previous year.

It will, therefore, be clear that, quite apart from the public health aspect, this single disease is the chief factor governing the cause by which the trade sustains great losses annually at the instance of the Public Health Department through the efforts made by the Department to safeguard the purity and freedom from disease of meat purchased by the public.

During the year under review, legal proceedings were taken on two occasions against the same vendor in respect of diseased meat exposed for sale in the town after slaughter elsewhere.

The first case concerned a calf in a state of emaciation and suffering from nephritis, the carcase of which was exhibited for sale in a shop window when the Inspector detected it. The magistrates found the case proved and imposed fines totalling £8 and costs. On the second occasion a bovine kidney, extensively diseased with parasitic cysts, was found by the Inspector on a motor lorry from which meat was being carried into the shop. The magistrates found the case proved and imposed fines totalling £6 and costs. In this instance proceedings were also taken against the employee for a contravention of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, in that, whilst handling the meat, he wore an overalls in such a dirty condition as to be likely to contaminate the meat. The magistrates found the case proved and imposed a fine of 20/-.

In concluding the portion of the report relative to food inspection, it is observed that everything practicable is done to protect the public against the undesirable practices of certain careless stallholders on the open markets. Offences most commonly pointed out, and of which immediate remedy is demanded, are as follows:—

The placing of uncovered trays or other receptacles containing bread, confectionery, meat or fruit on the ground, so exposing such foods to contamination or pollution by dogs; the inadequate covering of meat stalls; the exposure for sale of rabbits containing Coccidiosis or, less frequently, Coenurus Serialis cysts in the muscles; the pollution of fruit—particularly apples and tomatoes—by the stallholder breathing upon and polishing them with his pocket handkerchief or on his jacket sleeve. In spite of the best efforts to prevent anything objectionable, the conviction is forced upon one that the sale of foodstuffs as generally conducted upon open markets, leaves much to be desired.

SURRENDERS AND SEIZURES OF UNSOUND FOOD, OFFAL, ETC., 1931.

Number of whole carcasses, parts of carcasses, organs and offals condemned as unfit for food:—

	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.	Total.
Whole carcasses, including organs	6	2	4	3	15
Part carcasses	11	—	2	1	14
Heads, including tongues	82	—	140	—	222
Lungs	176	2	77	2	257
Livers	126	22	90	2	240
Hearts	6	2	46	2	56
Spleens	9	—	27	—	36
Stomachs	13	—	7	—	20
Udders	8	—	—	—	8
Diaphragms	14	—	—	—	14
Mesenteries	40	—	122	—	162
Kidneys	13	—	7	—	20
Tongues (excluding heads)	3	—	—	—	3

CAUSES OF CONDEMNATION AND WEIGHT.

Disease.	Cattle. lbs.	Sheep. lbs.	Pigs. lbs.	Calves. lbs.	Total. lbs.
Tuberculosis	10513	—	2732	18	13263
Distomatosis	943	36	—	—	979
Cirrhosis	60	2	110	—	172
Actinomycosis	78	—	—	—	78
Abscesses	274	—	6	—	280
Parasitic Cysts	8	16	50	—	74
Pneumonia	—	—	4	—	4
Decomposition	147	—	—	—	147
Moribund	—	164	145	—	309
Pleurisy	20	—	27	—	47
Oedema	210	—	1	—	211
Emaciation	—	—	—	40	40
Immaturity	—	—	—	100	100
Tumour	—	4	—	—	4
Bacillary Necrosis	16	—	—	—	16
Angioma	50	—	—	—	50
Inflammation	1	—	—	—	1
Infarcts	8	—	—	—	8
Not defined	36	—	—	—	36
Total	12,364	222	3,075	158	15,819
	equals	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
		7	1	0	27
Bacon (Rancidity)					17
Mussels (Decomposition)	—		2	0	0
Total		7	3	1	16

COMPARISON WITH RECENT YEARS.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.		Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
1926	2	11	3	18	1929	8	12	3	23
1927	9	14	1	5	1930	10	11	0	26
1928	9	5	0	7					

(c) ADULTERATION, ETC.

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1928.

During the year 75 samples of Food and Drugs were purchased and submitted to the Public Analyst, who certified 68 samples to be genuine, 1 doubtful, and 6 adulterated. Particulars of any administrative action taken in respect of the samples adulterated are given in Table II.

Sample No. 12 was the only case of adulteration in respect of which proceedings were taken during the year and formed the subject of a most serious adulteration of milk. The defendant, who pleaded guilty, admitted that he wilfully added water to the milk sampled in the astounding proportion of 40.7 per cent. The fine of 40/- and costs imposed by the Bench did not appear excessive in view of the enormity of the offence.

A further comparison shews that of the 50 milk samples analysed, 6 were adulterated. In addition, 4 other milk samples, though genuine according to the Sale of Milk Regulations, were stated by the Public Analyst to be of poor quality. In the Annual Report for 1930 it was pointed out that, compared with the previous year, the number of detections in respect of the sale of adulterated milk had increased. This is again the case for the year under review. Compared with 1930, when 4 out of 40 samples were adulterated, it will be seen that during 1931 the proportion of samples adulterated to the total taken again rose.

This is further demonstrated by Table III, shewing the monthly average composition of milk samples, wherein it appears that the average fat content for the samples purchased throughout the year was 3.48 per cent., as compared with 3.58 per cent., 3.93 per cent., 3.81 per cent., 3.83 per cent. for the years 1930, 1929, 1928 and 1927 respectively. The tendency of the nutritive qualities of the milk to fall is not satisfactory.

The article of food classified as doubtful was cake, which, whilst labelled "Lemon" when exposed for sale, was found on analysis to contain neither lemon juice nor lemon pulp.

Tin to the proportion of a $\frac{1}{4}$ gr. per pound was found in a cheap brand of canned tomatoes.

Table IV gives the results of examination of various foods for preservatives and colouring matters controlled by the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925. It will be seen that, in all, 19 different foods were examined for preservatives. Of this number, 11 are in a class respecting which preservatives are entirely prohibited. In no case was preservative detected in any of these. As regards the remaining 8 samples, comprising a class in which preservatives are permitted to a small degree, again no preservative whatever was found. Further, in no single case of the 50 milk samples examined was any trace of preservative found.

As regards colouring matters, no sample was found to contain any of those prohibited by the regulations, i.e., Metallic Colouring Matters, Compounds of Antimony, Arsenic, Cadmium, Chromium, Copper, Mercury, Lead, Zinc, Gamboge and certain Coal Tar Colours. So far as it is safe to form a conclusion upon the limited number of samples taken locally, it would appear that the use of dangerous preservatives and colouring matters in foods, formerly practised to a wide degree, has been discontinued.

In regard to the six samples of ice-cream analysed during the summer, the following remarks by the Public Analyst are interesting:—

“ From time immemorial ice-cream has been made from a species of milk custard. Some makers use whole milk, others a mixture of whole milk and separated milk or partially skimmed milk. In my opinion ice-cream is scarcely a food and much more a sweet-meat, and it would be difficult to bring it under the Food Regulations as a recognised article of diet. In previous cases, from Bradford and the West Riding, we have usually found more whole milk than in any or all of the above cases.”

As it would appear a vendor may sell a most inferior article, and still be within the Law, a standard governing the quality of ice-cream for sale is urgently needed..

The following table gives particulars of foods sampled during the year and results of analysis:—

TABLE I.

Sample.	Formal. Informal		Adulter- Doubt-			Total.
			Genuine.	ated.	ful.	
Butter	—	1	1	—	—	1
Bread	—	1	1	—	—	1
Cheese	—	1	1	—	—	1
Cake	—	1	—	—	1	1
Cornflour	—	1	1	—	—	1
Canned fruit	—	1	1	—	—	1
Canned tomatoes	—	1	1	—	—	1
Ice-Cream	—	6	6	—	—	6
Jam	—	1	1	—	—	1
Marmalade	—	1	1	—	—	1
Margarine	1	—	1	—	—	1
Milk	49	—	43	6	—	49
Milk (Separated)	1	—	1	—	—	1
Potted Meat	—	3	3	—	—	3
Rice	—	1	1	—	—	1
Sugar	1	—	1	—	—	1
Sausage	1	—	1	—	—	1
Sago	—	1	1	—	—	1
Sauce	—	1	1	—	—	1
Tea	—	1	1	—	—	1
Totals	53	22	68	6	1	75

TABLE II.

Administrative action taken in respect of samples reported by the Public Analyst to be not genuine.

Sample No.	Nature of sample and results of analysis..	Remarks.
12.	Milk—Milk 59.3% Added water ... 40.7%	Reported to Public Health Committee. Proceedings taken against vendor. Case proved; defendant fined 40/- and costs.
17.	Milk—Fat 2.94% Solids not fat... 8.82%	Reported to Public Health Committee. No action taken.
54.	Milk—Fat 2.54% Solids not fat... 9.20%	Reported to Public Health Committee, before whom vendor appeared and was given a warning.
56.	Milk—Fat 2.78% Solids not fat... 8.86%	Reported to Public Health Committee, before whom vendor appeared and was given a warning.
72.	Milk—Milk 99.3%	Reported to Public Health Committee, before whom vendor appeared and was given a warning.
73.	Milk—Fat 2.74% Solids not fat... 9.02%	Reported to Public Health Committee, before whom vendor appeared and was given a warning.

TABLE III.
Monthly Average Composition of Milk Samples.

Month.	No. of Samples.	Analytical Data.	
		Milk Fat, per cent.	Non-fatty solids per cent.
January	—	—	—
February	5	3.47	8.68
March	5	3.15	8.22
April	6	3.32	9.00
May	5	3.27	9.13
June	—	—	—
July	5	3.67	9.07
August	—	—	—
September	10	3.49	9.01
October	6	4.08	8.97
November	—	—	—
December	7	3.36	8.94
Average for the year 1931 ...		3.48	8.90
Average for the year 1930		3.58	8.97
Average for the year 1929		3.93	9.01
Average for the year 1928		3.81	8.96
Average for the year 1927		3.83	8.98
Requirements of the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1901		3.00	8.50

TABLE IV.

Articles of Food examined for Preservative in accordance with the Public Health (Preservatives, etc., in Food) Regulations, 1925.

Food.	No. of samples examined.	Nature of Preservative.	Amount.		Remarks.
			Allowed.	Found.	
Butter	1	—	Nil.	Nil.	No prohibited colouring matter.
Bread	1	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Cheese	1	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Cake	1	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Cornflour	1	Sulphur dioxide	100 parts per million.	Nil.	No tin. Tin $\frac{1}{2}$ gr. per lb.
Canned fruit	1	Sulphur dioxide	350 parts per million.	Nil.	
Canned tomatoes	1	Sulphur dioxide	350 parts per million.	Nil.	
Ice-cream ...	6	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Jam	1	Sulphur dioxide	40 parts per million.	Nil.	8.9% Butter; 12.7% moisture.
Marmalade	1	Sulphur dioxide	40 parts per million.	Nil.	
Margarine	1	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Milk	50	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Potted Meat	3	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Rice	1	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Sugar	1	Sulphur dioxide	70 parts per million.	Nil.	
Sausage	1	Sulphur dioxide	450 parts per million.	Nil.	
Sago	1	—	Nil.	Nil.	
Sauce	1	Benzoic acid	250 parts per million.	Nil.	
Tea	1	—	Nil.	Nil.	

(d) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD has not been specially required during the year otherwise than for milk. Bacteriological examinations of Certified Milk have been made monthly by the Clinical Research Association at the request of the Ministry of Health. Ordinary chemical examinations of food samples have been made as usual by the analyst who generally does this work. The West Riding County Council laboratory is also available, if necessary.

(e) NUTRITION.—The remarks on page 78 of the Medical Officer's Annual Report for 1930 may be taken to apply equally to 1931.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

SMALLPOX.—No case occurred in Batley during the year, but a number of contacts of cases in other parts of the country were kept under observation.

DIPHTHERIA was notified on 52 occasions. There were no return cases, but 8 deaths. Antitoxin is provided by the Corporation to practitioners free upon request. 226,600 units were thus distributed during the year at a cost of £19 15s. 6d.. Of this amount 190,000 units were used in one practice at a cost of £16 12s. 6d., but only 36,000 units at a cost of £3 3s. 0d. were used in this practice for cases notified as Diphtheria.

During recent years the wholesale immunisation of school children against attacks of Diphtheria has been practised in some towns in this country and abroad with the greatest success. Most children who have undergone this treatment are protected for a number of years. On several occasions I have spoken in favour of this procedure, but whether it would be possible in Batley to persuade parents to submit their children to the simple process is doubtful. When one remembers the objections to vaccination during the recent smallpox epidemic on the part of members of the Corporation as well as the public generally, it is not to be expected. And yet it all seems so illogical. No child need suffer from Diphtheria if the methods of protection by immunisation are taken advantage of. In the same way no persons need suffer from smallpox provided they care to protect themselves by the certain methods available. We are often told in Batley that "everything depends on £ s. d." Here then are two certain methods by which the cost of maintenance of patients in hospital may be saved. In addition suffering and death from these diseases may be avoided.

ERYSIPELAS was notified nine times. No special comment is called for.

SCARLET FEVER was notified 61 times, which is a diminution when compared with the figures for the two previous years (73 and 101). There was one death, but generally speaking the type was very mild. In quite a number of patients the diagnosis was difficult on account of such slight symptoms.

ENTERIC FEVER.—Two cases were notified. The patients were young children, whose mother was taken ill and removed to a nursing home in another town. After some weeks there it was

discovered that the mother's disease was Enteric Fever. A young girl of about seventeen had come to the house from the North of England as general servant about a fortnight before the onset of the mother's illness. Her blood gave a positive re-action. After exhaustive enquiries it was settled that the mother and two children were probably infected by the servant. The children were sent to the isolation hospital. All three recovered.

PNEUMONIA was notified eighteen times. The regulations respecting the notification of this disease are largely ignored by practitioners. As an illustration it may be mentioned that thirty deaths were certified as due to pneumonia during 1931, and in a town of this size there would obviously be many cases which did not prove fatal. Six of the notified cases were removed to hospital, but it is customary for patients and their relatives to be hostile when hospital treatment is suggested.

PUERPERAL FEVER was notified once. The patient was confined and treated at home under the care of her own doctor. She recovered in due course. No cases of PUERPERAL PYREXIA were notified.

CEREBRO SPINAL MENINGITIS was notified twice. One patient was a married woman who died a few hours after notification. Pathological examination after death proved the disease not to be as notified. The other case was a child of three years who was treated in hospital.

The Medical Officer of Health not being the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospitals—which are in charge of general practitioners—is not able to give the information required on page 10 of the Ministry's Circular 1206 (England).

Use has not been made of the Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively, or of the artificial methods of immunisation against these diseases, public opinion being unfavourable, as would be expected in an area which has been strongly opposed to vaccination and "inoculation" for many years.

INFLUENZA called for no special comment, there being no epidemic of the disease.

No (a) primary vaccinations or (b) re-vaccinations were performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Smallpox Prevention) Regulations, 1917. The Medical Officer of Health has been informed locally that the Ministry of Health received a communication from a member of the Council with respect to this subject. He is not aware of the correctness or

otherwise of this statement and never heard anything from the Ministry on the subject.

NON-NOTIFIABLE ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES become known to the department principally through the agency of Teachers, Health Visitors, School Nurses, School Attendance Officer, Parents, etc. During 1931 Head Teachers notified 419 and the School Attendance Officer 49 cases.

The average weekly number of scholars excluded either as patients or contacts during the year for notifiable or non-notifiable diseases was:—

Scarlet Fever	12.7	Mumps	12.1
Diphtheria	3.2	Ringworm	2.6
Para Typhoid Fever ...	Nil.	Impetigo	0.98
Measles	16.2	Contagious Ophthalmia ...	Nil.
Whooping Cough	11.4	Scabies and Itch	0.79
Chickenpox	12.5	Verminous Conditions ...	5.3
Smallpox	0.14	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	0.12

No locally contracted case of **ANTHRAX** or **RABIES** was notified during the year. Epidemic jaundice, undulant fever or psittacosis was unknown and rheumatic fever called for no special comment.

CANCER DEATH RATE.—The following table gives figures during the last 23 years.

Year	No. Deaths	Rate per 1,000 of population	Year	No. Deaths	Rate per 1,000 of population	Year	No. Deaths	Rate per 1,000 of population
1909	34	1.06	1917	46	1.3	1925	49	1.3
1910	39	1.05	1918	51	1.5	1926	53	1.5
1911	34	0.9	1919	39	1.1	1927	55	1.6
1912	32	0.8	1920	56	1.5	1928	55	1.6
1913	40	1.08	1921	42	1.1	1929	62	1.8
1914	40	1.08	1922	44	1.1	1930	57	1.6
1915	36	0.9	1923	38	1.0	1931	60	1.7
1916	47	1.3	1924	53	1.4			

The death-rate per 1,000 from Cancer for England and Wales for 1930 was 1.4. The 1931 figures are not yet available.

Cancer Research is continued locally at the Leeds University, in conjunction with the British Empire Cancer Campaign.

No compulsory cleansing of **VERMINOUS PERSONS** was resorted to, but many scholars were cleansed from vermin by their parents under threat of prosecution. The cleansing and disinfecting station was frequently used to deal with smallpox contacts.

During the autumn the usual measures in connection with Rat Week were taken as described in previous Annual Reports.

DISINFECTION, 1931.

The following table shows the number of disinfections during the year :—

	Beds	Pillows	Cushions	Blankets	Mat- tresses	Sheets	Quilts	Wearing Apparel	Carpets	Miscell. Articles	Totals
Destroyed for the Borough	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Destroyed for others out- side the Borough ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Disinfected for the Borough	184	442	44	654	3	119	201	201	..	44	1892
Disinfected for others out- side the Borough ..	1	4	2	4	..	..	..	..	..	2	13
Disinfected for the Batley and District Hospital	110	338	..	104	..	15	6	13	..	36	622
Totals ..	296	784	46	762	3	134	207	214	..	82	2528

Number of houses disinfected, 33 ; number of rooms disinfected, 72 ; number of times apparatus charged, 411 ; number of library, etc., books disinfected, 298.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR 1931.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								Total cases notified in each locality (e.g. Parish or Ward) of the District.				Total Cases Removed to Hospital.			
	At Ages... Years								1 North Ward	2 West Ward	3 West Ward	4 South Ward	1931	1926 to 1930	1924 to 1925	1916 to 1920
	At all ages	Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and upwards								
Small-pox...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera (C) Plague (P)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	52	...	12	28	9	3	...	...	21	15	9	7	50	100	80	259
Erysipelas	9	...	...	...	1	1	5	2	2	...	5	2	...	...	1	...
Scarlet Fever	61	...	8	48	4	1	...	...	16	10	23	12	60	291	300	166
Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	5	24	26
Para Typhoid (B)	18	2	6	4	1	4	1	...	7	9	2	...	...	11	1	...
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	35	30	1
Relapsing Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Puerperal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	...	...
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...
Polionmyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	7	4	9
*Pulmonary Tuberculosis	22	...	...	3	5	10	4	...	4	12	4	2	30	136	204	202
†Other Forms of "	18	...	1	10	3	3	1	...	8	5	3	2	4	24	19	10
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Totals	187	5	30	93	23	23	11	2	59	52	51	25	154	774	669	675

* Males 11, Females, 11. + Males 13, Females 5. Total deaths from all notified Infectious Diseases, 27.

The Zymotic Death-rate for 1931 was 0.37 per 1,000 of the population.

Analysis of total Deaths from Notified Infectious Diseases under Age Groups.

	Under 1 year	1-2 years.	2-3 years	3-4 years.	4-5 years.	5-10 years	10-15 years.	15-20 years.	20-35 years.	35-45 years.	45-65 years.	65 and over.
Scarlet Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria	1	...	2	3	1	...	...	1	...	...
Pneumonia	1	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	8	1	2	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	...

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING

THE 40 YEARS, 1890-1929.

YEARLY AVERAGES.

	1890 to 1899.	1900 to 1909.	1910 to 1919.	1920 to 1929.
*Measles	142.7	...
Smallpox	...	56.1	19.1	0.8
Diphtheria	...	51.8	29.6	56.3
Erysipelas	...	37.3	12.8	15.9
Scarlet Fever	...	93.8	90.7	50.3
Scarlet Fever & Diphtheria	0.3
Enteric Fever	...	64.6	46.9	15.2
Paratyphoid	3.4
Fever	1.4
Pneumonia	35.8
Malaria	0.2
Dysentery	0.1
Br. forward	303.6	199.1	360.2	144.5
Continued Fever	0.1
Puerperal Fever	...	2.7	1.5	1.6
" Pyrexia	0.7
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1.0
Polionmyelitis	0.1
Ophthalmia	0.4
Neonatorum	11.3	3.9
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	85.0	48.5
Other forms of Tuberculosis	31.2	13.1
Encephalitis
Lethargica	0.4
†Chickenpox	2.3
Car. forward	303.6	199.1	360.2	144.5
	306.3	200.6	489.9	214.7

* Measles was notifiable from 1916 to 1919.

†Chickenpox was notifiable from 12th October, 1929, to 11th January, 1930.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action has been taken under Sec. 66 Public Health Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes, the local facilities appearing to be sufficient.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM, 1931.

Year.	CASES.			Vision Unimpaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Death
	Notified	Treated.					
		At Home.	In Hospital				
1931	3	2	1	3	...	...	...

TUBERCULOSIS IN BATLEY, 1931.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..
1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
5	...	1	2	3	...	...	...	...
10	2	...	4	1	...	...	...	...
15	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...
20	2	2	2	...	...	3	..	...
25	3	3	1	1	3	2	...	...
35	1	3	1	...	2	...	1	...
45	2	1	...	...	3	...	1	...
55	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
65 & upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	11	11	13	5	8	7	2	...

Housing conditions of patients notified to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the thirteen years 1919 to 1931 were as follows:—

Years	Notifica- tions		Type of House		Occupants.									Houses with more than one Patient Notified	Rooms.				Bedrooms.				Sleeping Accommodation for Patients.					
	M.	F.	B. to B.	Single Through	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9 and over	1	2	3	4	5	6 and over	1	2	3	4 and over	Separate Room.	Shared Room.	Separate Bed	Shared Bed	
1919 to 1931 (Inclusive)	329	252	283	147	162	350	124	114	111	67	48	23	42	80	44	188	181	96	55	28	210	280	86	15	136	460	286	310
Year 1931	11	11	8	6	8	1	1	7	4	3	2	2	1	2	14	7	1	—	—	—	6	9	7	—	5	17	13	9

The above figures give an insight into the way many persons in Batley are spending their lives, the conditions not being confined to tuberculosis patients only. The table has been previously published in former years, but has never excited any comment. This appears remarkable. In view of the passing of the Housing Act, 1930, the table furnishes information bearing upon this Act and the special Report of the Medical Officer of Health in relation thereto.

The relationship between notification of tuberculosis and deaths from the disease is shown in the following table, which covers the period between January 1st, 1913, and December 31st, 1931 :—

Death before notification ...	94	Death 6 months after ...	15
Death 1 month, or under, after notification ...	149	Death 7 months after ...	14
Death 2 months after ...	46	Death 8 months after ...	8
Death 3 months after ...	28	Death 9 months after ...	6
Death 4 months after ...	17	Death 10 months after ...	3
Death 5 months after ...	15	Death 11 months after ...	6
		Death 12 months and over...	103

The ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths to total tuberculosis deaths during 1931 was 3 to 17, or 17.6 per cent.

The Regulations respecting the notification of Tuberculosis are largely ignored.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was taken or called for under these Regulations during 1931.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925, SECTION 62.

This section refers to the compulsory removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. It is similar to Section 138 of the Batley Corporation Act, 1921. The West Riding County Council is the authority responsible for the provision of hospital accommodation for persons suffering from tuberculosis. There are many cases where such is very desirable, though not provided, partly because there are not sufficient beds available, and partly because tubercular patients often refuse hospital treatment. No action was taken under this section.

The adoptive portions of this Act were recommended to the Sanitary Committee by the Medical Officer of Health for adoption by the Town Council at a meeting of that Committee on September 22nd, 1926. The recommendation is again made.

G. H. PEARCE, M.D., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Officer's Department, Batley,
April, 1932.

